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Die Fabrik – a bold sociological venture in Altona, Hamburg

One of the greatest human problems is that of loneliness. In the past there were natural refuges. One of the main ones was the large family in which helpless children, old people, the unmarried, and widowed members of the family had a place.

In addition there were institutions to which the lonely could turn – the church, the local inn, spinning-rooms and the neighbours. There was contact with the world around, and if it did not exist it could easily be created.

In our modern society the lonely person flees from his loneliness into an illusory world of communications and anonymous contacts. He sits in front of the television screen, if possible with a bottle of something alcoholic by his side. Or he goes to the cinema and shares a kind of two-dimensional living with a few hundred people. Or he goes down to the local for a meal and sets up the paper as a barrier between himself and the other people in the place.



This terrible problem of lonely people is a major concern for sociologists, doctors, educationalists and churchmen A whole series of organisations have been set up as a refuge for those who feel lonesome. But not one of them is really a substitute for lost contact with the world.

The idea of providing some kind of community centre that fits in with our modern style of living seems so obvious that it is a wonder that one has not been set up in each of our major cities as a result of the joint efforts of our municipal authorities, the Church, social workers and the like.

In the summer of 1971 an artist and an architect on their own private initiative and with their own inspiration and energy set about renting a former machinery factory in the Altona district of Hamburg, built in about 1830, and renovating it.

The new centre was designed for young and old alike and when the "communication centre" got under way it was variously admired, written about, filmed, raved about or pulled to pieces by the critics.

The centre was soon given the name "Fabrik" (Factory) and the name went the rounds. For some it is a "theme", for others a place of pilgrimage. What exactly is this organisation when one regards its existence without prejudice?

Some visitors have said that the building is as architecturally pleasing as an old church. If this is true it is something that does not immediately strike one and should not be given too much attention.

Those who are curious and travel to Altona to have a look at the *Fabrik* for the first time are confronted with a dingy building that has apparently changed little since the days when it really was a factory. This applies to the outside and by and large to the inside as well.

There is all the ugliness and disconsolateness of any factory floor on which men drudged and earnt poor wages. At first glance the whole place is most depressing.

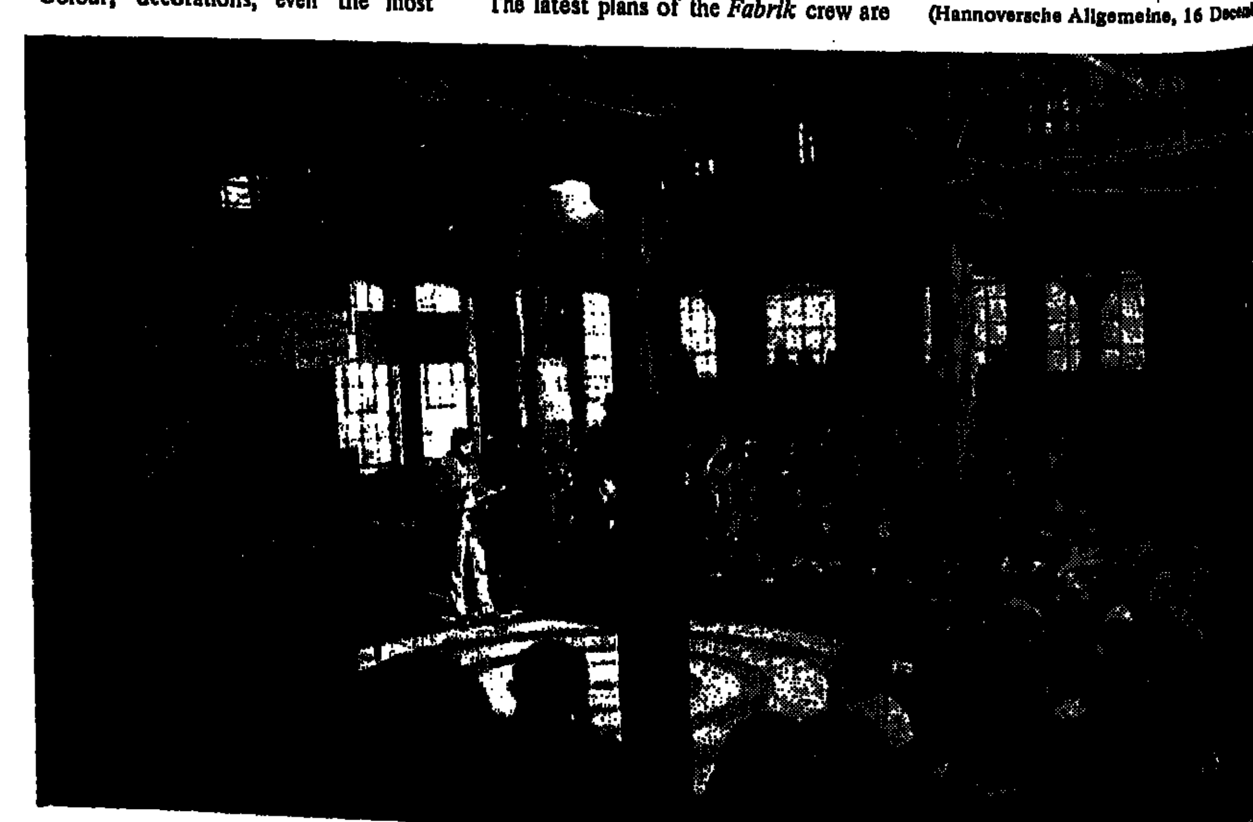
The depression only lifts when one gets to know the new kind of life that fills the old factory, the new spirit that makes the outward appearance of the building seem trivial.

In the lower hall children aged between five and ten race around. They clamber, yell and enjoy playing far more than they ever could in a small flat or a kindergarten. In the left wing there is a small theatre, the stalls built up out of old railway sleepers, and next to this is a painting and do-it-yourself section. Everything looks rough and ready – and it is. But what the *Fabrik* has to offer sounds most ambitious: a discotheque, cafeteria, restaurant, library and printing works. These expressions normally conjure up an idea of glossy packaging, as is common in our consumer society. But the colourful packaging is missing.

In the *Fabrik* everything is reduced to utilitarian essentials. And it quickly becomes clear that things are not debased in any way by having the frills removed. Furniture that has seen better days, tables and stools made of sleepers (ties), light bulbs that hang on a long cord from the ceiling and wire netting to divide off one part of the "factory" from another.

One's aesthetic senses have little to satisfy them in these surroundings. One feels this even more on entering the "tea-room" where there is a more cosy atmosphere with bunches of flowers and softer lighting.

Colour, decorations, even the most meagre contributions towards comfort are missing elsewhere in the building. But visitors to the *Fabrik* quickly realise that all the trimmings are superficial and the lack of them can quickly be made up for by something much more important, through an atmosphere of openness and personal freedom that has been created here and is guarded jealously. Of course the *Fabrik* has attracted that kind of snob who always has to be in on such a new idea, feeling that it is "in". This is the type who, before coming to a play at the *Fabrik* will go round the boutiques and try to find "something suitable to wear in Altona, dahling!" The snobbery of this kind of visitor does no harm to the *Fabrik*. And their money is welcome.



The day when all the debts have been paid off and a small profit is forthcoming is still a long way off. About 400,000 Marks was spent on renovating the old building, 200,000 or so coming from the two initiators Horst Dietrich and Friedhelm Zeuner. The rest is mortgaged.

Looking at Horst Dietrich's face we can see the virtual exhaustion that sixteen hours of work almost every day can bring. Nonetheless his eyes are still brightly and attentively following all that is of interest.

His particular interest is young tearaways – the so-called rockers. He has not exactly managed to tame them, but he has at least made contact with them. When you get to know him you will realise that these potential hoodlums accept him because of his honesty and straight-up-and-down nature with no side.

Punch-ups and bovver do not happen in the *Fabrik*. Rockers roll up to listen to records in the discotheque or to lend a hand in the craft classes. Their help is voluntary and there are only a few taciturn outsiders who will not join in.

The latest plans of the *Fabrik* crew are to set up a homework advisory ... the older schoolchildren who com... *Fabrik*, and operettas for a section ... not-so-young generation who as ... not find their needs catered for ... *Fabrik*.

For the *Fabrik* tries to help all ... people. It is not carrying out cultu... educational work, but simply ... people to join in the community.

About seven o'clock one eve... diminutive girl of about three wa... to two tall young men. She would ... her name but did say the str... number of the house where she li... had been playing at the *Fabrik* ... where a patient man with a black... looked after her and gave her her ... meal. He worked for the *Fabrik* ... he and another official ... themselves the job of taking ... home, since her mother who had ... her there in the morning h... reappeared.

The calmness with which this ... was treated showed that it was ... out of the ordinary. In the dive... at this sociological organisation ... It was one incident among many ... are sad but easily resolved.

The *Fabrik* and the world of ... seeking in the consumer society ... vastly different worlds. *Christa S...*

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 16 Decemb...)



(Photos: Marianne von der L...)

The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

Hamburg, 1 February 1973
Twelfth Year - No. 564 - By air

C 20725 C

Paris-Bonn friendship treaty is ten years old

Frankfurter Rundschau

Friendship is a fine-sounding word. To use it continually and in every context is to arouse suspicions that there is a skeleton in the cupboard. On the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Franco-Federal Republic friendship pact it would, perhaps, be preferable for politicians to tone down their enthusings. Franco-Federal Republic friendship, the token by which post-war generations in both countries sought to eliminate traditional hostility, is now but a matter of fact.

The treaty itself marked the end of an era. To understand it one must bear in mind the generation of its signatories. Konrad Adenauer and Charles de Gaulle wanted to formalise politically indispensable reconciliation between the two countries.

Their gesture may have been a little emotional, yet one is bound to admit that

IN THIS ISSUE

...e were a fair number of prejudices, ...ous points and mistaken impressions ... be cleared up. Franco-Federal Republic reconciliation is by now old hat, ... good thing too!

There is no longer anything special ...t relations between the two countries. Nothing caused Bonn and Paris ... trouble than General de Gaulle's ... of privileged ties between the two Common Market members.

The Bonn-Paris axis, a kind of Franco-Federal Republic directorate for ...pe, remained an alarming idea and ...d have represented a strain for all concerned.

Ten years later Willy Brandt and Georges Pompidou bear witness to a ...tic approach. They have agreed to ... down mutual ties from "priviliged" ... "exemplary" relations from which ...one, but first and foremost they ...selves, stand to benefit.

Nowadays Franco-Federal Republic ...ons primarily represent European ...ons. There is hardly any item on the agenda of the Paris talks between Chancellor Brandt and President Pompidou that will not also be on the agenda of the forthcoming Bonn talks between Chancellor Brandt and Premier Heath and is not a routine topic in Brussels.

Political integration and Western Europe's relations with the United States and Eastern Europe are European topics, as both sides well know. On its tenth anniversary the Franco-Federal Republic friendship pact looks a trifle long in the teeth.

If the praises of the pact are to be sung perhaps one should say that in 1973 France and this country share a good many interests. Despite differences in outlook and in political and social organisation their requirements on the home front are the same.

Comparison of the major domestic topics in last autumn's election campaign in this country with those in the current French election campaign reveals a surprising similarity of fundamental problems, though not necessarily of the solutions adopted.

In foreign affairs Bonn and Paris are in the same boat too, whether they want or not. Detente policies can only be pursued in common – either together or not at all.

Franco-Federal Republic cooperation as part of the greater European whole has progressed further than many may think. In his government policy declaration Chancellor Brandt rightly noted that economic integration alone has already mady considerable inroads into national freedom of manoeuvre.

Stability, economic and monetary union, social union and finally gradual progress towards political union are, it is fairly safe to forecast, a foregone conclusion unless, that is, everyone wants to revert to general confusion.

Common interests do not preclude the possibility of disagreement, though, further-reaching disagreements at that. France's attempt by means of the Franco-Federal Republic pact to loosen the ties between this country and the United States in 1963 failed just as a more moderate current attempt is likewise doomed to failure.

France's unconscionably slow progress towards democratisation of the Common Market and limitation of national sovereignty will continue to try this country's patience to a degree.

A glance at the Franco-Federal Republic friendship pact is a backward glance. Foreign Minister Walter Scheel has termed it an example and a precursor in Europe.

It could well be that the routine of regular intergovernmental consultaions was instrumental in preventing relations between the two countries from reaching an impasse in the difficult sixties.

Nowadays the verdict on the pact is an entirely different one. It is no longer really necessary. What better compliment could there be for the efficacy of a treaty? *Hans Kepper*

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 January 1973)



President Pompidou and Chancellor Brandt in Paris on 22 January, ten years after the Friendship treaty between France and the Federal Republic went into operation

(Photo: dpa)

President Nixon reaches the pinnacle of his career

In proclaiming that the world is on the threshold of a new era of peace President Nixon in his second inaugural address has spoken both to his fellow-countrymen and to the world at large, and both were intended to be at the receiving end of his appeal for greater self-reliance and responsibility, which was the *leitmotiv* of the entire address.

The new era now in the offing will, he promised, differ from other post-war periods in that there will be no reversion to isolationism and the fresh dangers it entails in the wake of the Vietnam war.

This appeared to be a reference to the years following the First World War during which Woodrow Wilson failed to incorporate an America weary of foreign policy commitments in constructive and lasting peace arrangements.

Close attention must be paid elsewhere in the world to President Nixon's outline of his future foreign policy and his ideas on the basis of a peace structure.

He promised that America would appreciate the need for and the limits of its role in the world, would stand by its treaty commitments but not make decisions for others and would expect others to pull their weight and keep their own houses in order.

After years of hostility a stage has been reached at which nations committed to opposing ideologies can be friends.

In an inauguration address that was redolent of historic significance a US President for the first time ever talked in terms of non-hostile relations between the United States and the Communist powers.

Many problems defy governmental attempts to provide a solution. In future the government ought to take less from the taxpayer in order to enable him to do more for himself.

A passage that will doubtless frequently be quoted was an adaptation of President Kennedy's famous dictum that Americans should not ask what their country can do for them but what they can do for their country. According to Mr Nixon Americans ought not to ask what the administration can do for them but what they can do for themselves.

This accords with longstanding American traditions and outlooks and is doubtless deeply rooted in the President's convictions. Many Americans do indeed feel that the plethora of Federal programmes, growing expenditure, bureaucracy and welfare burdens has landed the era of social reform commenced forty years ago in a cul-de-sac.

These, then, are the salient points of President Nixon's address. How and to what extent the call for less government and more individual responsibility is to be put into practice in a society rent by social and racial difficulties and governed to a large extent by the impersonal bureaucracy of major corporations will be one of the major issues in years to come and doubtless the subject of strife and dispute.

The keynote Mr Nixon sounded was less one of triumph than of awareness of the tasks and struggles ahead. In accordance with the President's personality the tenor of his address was indicative and argumentative rather than inspiring.

In Washington the clouds of a clash between President and Congress are seen on the horizon. Even conservative commentators who usually have a friendly world for the President are alarmed at the way in which Mr Nixon is isolating himself.

During the much-maligned bombing raids on North Vietnam he listened to no

Continued on page 2

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

USA with or without peace in Vietnam is essential to Europe

DIE ZEIT

After nearly three years of almost exclusive concentration on foreign policy home affairs are now coming to the fore in Bonn. This is just as it should be, but foreign affairs continue for all that.

Bonn's foreign policy will be less spectacular. Following the turning point that *Ostpolitik* marked no decisions are required of the second Brandt/Scheel administration that affect the nation's sense of history.

Foreign policy will be concerned more with the day-to-day conduct of diplomacy than with the definition of principles.

Nonetheless Bonn's point of view must continue to be clearly defined and Federal Republic interests to be realistically assessed. Continuity must be the keynote, and the government must make sure that the domestic groundwork of foreign policy remains stable.

There must be no crediting polemical allegations that the Eastern treaties of recent years are the work of socialist neutralists, the aim of whom is not merely to manoeuvre this country into a no man's land between the ideological fronts but to steer the country into Soviet waters.

Willy Brandt and Walter Scheel have realised that the status quo in Europe is inevitable. To infer that they are prepared willy-nilly to acknowledge the inevitability of Soviet domination in Europe as a whole is to indulge in unjustified and unjustifiable agitation.

Neither their public statements nor their actions warrant accusations of pursuing a policy of parting company with the West.

It is all the more regrettable that the left-wing wave of protest against America's strategy in Vietnam has recently shown signs of a lamentable lack of realism extending at times to the Social Democratic Establishment and so seeming to provide right-wing allegations with a veneer of justification.

Vigilant moral protest is frequently intermingled with blind political protest — when, for instance, the Young Socialists call for an embargo on offset payments towards the foreign exchange costs of US troops stationed in this country as punishment for President Nixon's bombing raids on North Vietnam.

The same applies to foolish slogans such as "Free Vietnam — Red Vietnam", raids on the offices of American firms in this country and the destruction by fire of the library in an Amerika-Haus, as US information centres are called in the Federal Republic.

Are young left-wingers so unmindful of the darkest chapter in German history that they feel able to repeat the fire-raising and public burning of books of the Third Reich?

Who, apart from a Communist, will believe that a Red Vietnam would be a free Vietnam, so inferring that this country must turn Red in order to be really free?

And who, apart from someone who is blind to realities, would want, out of a sense of outrage, to provoke the Americans into pulling out of Europe when the security of Europe was, is and will continue to be based on the alliance with the United States?

As long as slogans of this kind are clearly communist in origin all is well and good. At least one knows where one stands. It is a good deal more alarming to note that a number of left-wing Social Democrats are also favouring this approach and would like Willy Brandt to follow their lead down the slippery slopes.

For reasons of morality they would like to stop the government from pursuing practical politics — just as root-and-branch right-wingers would like to forbid the government and ruling parties to field moral arguments in appealing to America's conscience.

One approach is as foolish as the other. Pity the country where moralists increasingly part company with reality, and pity the country where statesmen no longer try to include morality as a category by which to assess political action! Romantics and cynics are equally unfitted for government.

It would be more than foolish to want to allow protest against individual aspects of US policy, no matter how justified, to assume the proportions of out-and-out rejection of the alliance with America.

Outright anti-Americanism would bear witness not only to base ingratitude, admittedly something pretty well run-of-the-mill in the course of world history; it would be dangerous.

The relaxation of tension that has come about in Europe in recent years is attributable to Soviet realisation that the current state of affairs cannot be changed overnight.

This realisation is due in its turn to the balance of international power between the United States and the Soviet Union that emerged in the course of the sixties. This balance exists in Europe too and is due to no small extent to US military presence on the Continent.

Were this American military presence suddenly called into question the progress so far achieved in the way of detente would retreat to a transitory, twilight zone. Nor would that be the end of the story.

So far only the first stage of detente has been completed. Both sides have acknowledged the territorial status quo by means of agreements renouncing the use of force to resolve political conflicts.

The endeavour to bring about detente proper has yet to get under way. Now that the status quo has been acknowledged an attempt is being undertaken to bring about qualitative changes in the existing state of affairs.

Without altering the basic pattern of democratic countries on the one hand and communist countries on the other it is to be politically realigned so as to be more tolerable, combining more and more intergovernmental coexistence with les and less browbeating and muzzling of individuals.

This process calls for the utmost circumspection and for safeguards. Were caution cast to the winds there would be a risk of the progress towards greater freedom in the East gaining such momentum that a backlash would ensue just as the Prague Spring was followed by Soviet intervention in August 1968.

Were no safeguards to be taken in the West the Kremlin need hardly bother going to the trouble of longwinded detente. Moscow could well be tempted to resort to more roughshod means of asserting itself further west than the Baltic and the Elbe.

This is something that even Swedish Premier Olof Palme must realise. No matter how non-aligned his country may be Sweden has always derived benefit from the North Atlantic pact.

The next stage of detente will in any case include a number of hurdles that will prove hard to clear. The Soviet Union is still not prepared to relax the all-round severity of its concept of security and this will soon prove a grave handicap at Helsinki.

Pravda commentator Yuri Zhukov recently provided a foretaste of what Moscow understands by security. Freedom of travel across ideological frontiers is tantamount, or so he would have us believe, to an attempt to re-establish bourgeois society.

The West must stick to its guns. Over the forthcoming decade diplomacy will have to be geared to persuading the Kremlin that contacts need not be limited to what is deemed acceptable by the powers that be.

Ideological competition, Moscow must be made to see, need not be identical to a war of religion. The military and political association of Eastern Europe with the Soviet bloc must be freed from the after-taste of tyranny if there is to be any future in detente.

Even if the Soviet Union were to arrive at a more flexible concept of security the road towards relaxation of tension would still be lined with pitfalls.

The dependence of stability in Eastern Europe solely on Soviet domination is fraught with risks. Another application of the Brezhnev Doctrine to an Eastern European country would be bound to have fateful consequences. Were an attempt to be made to apply it to Yugoslavia after the death of Tito there would be a risk of world war.

The insurance policy Nato represents is still good for eventualities of this kind. Nato without the United States, however, would be like Hamlet without the Prince. The possibility of fresh crises arising and the process of detente in Europe call for US support. Without it there can be no such thing as security in the Old World.

This will remain part and parcel of the basic premises of Federal Republic policy until long after successive generations of students have forgotten what went on in Vietnam.

It would thus be dangerous to add grist to the mill of emotional anti-Americanism in this country. In the current phase of world affairs this country in association with others in Western Europe will have many a bone to pick with the Americans: tariff and trade agreements, reform of the international monetary system and even Nato as regards way and means of America's contribution towards the defence of Europe.

Bitter feuds must be fought out. Interests must be soberly weighed against one another. Willingness to reach a compromise must prevail. Links with Washington must be retained.

Uncontrolled outbursts of emotion such as the latest protests could, were they to recur too frequently, result in conflict between partners turning into cold war between adversaries.

The time is right to sound a forthright warning note against so fateful a formation of ideological fronts, particularly now that with the end of the war in Vietnam in sight the gravest risk of transatlantic alienation is on the point of being eliminated.

Theo Sommer

(Die Zeit, 19 January 1973)

President Nixon

Continued from page 1

one and evaded counter-arguments. He has also announced governmental re-organisation and budgetary adjustments without consulting Party leaders and Congress beforehand.

The inaugural address provided no answer to the question whether President Nixon intends to pursue a collision course or considers it to be necessary.

Hans B. Meyer

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 22 January 1973)

Kirk plans to pep European Parliam

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

On 16 January the delegates of t Common Market countri their seats in the European Parliam Strasbourg. Seating arrangements h be altered and altercations arose b neither the British Conservatives French Gaullists wanted to be seat far to the right.

In the end they agreed to sit one another to the right of the C Democrats but to the left of the Li

These were not the only prep the British had made for their en the parliamentary assembly of the pean Community. They arrived in bourg determined to be a new bro raise dust. Their first move was proposals for amendments to st orders.

In addition to other measures to enliven the proceedings they like to introduce a parlia question-time and to commit the Commission to closer ties w Strasbourg Parliament.

Peter Kirk, the British Cons leader in Strasbourg, is of the that the Common Market's pa has not by a long chalk utilised its limited powers of control.

Strasbourg may not have mu but if it does, when all is said a control four per cent of the EEC — administrative costs inclusive Commissioners' salaries. The Pa thus exercises a control that the can hardly overlook, or so the feel.

Even though the European P may not take major decisions members feel that it ought to b influence to bear than in the pa measures taken by the Bruss mission.

What they have in mind is its value and Mr Kirk has already clear that the British delegation a few surprises to spring and will short at making common c strange bedfellows. This is also istic of British parliamentary p and right-wingers occasionally forces against the government.

All in all the Conservatives bourg have set out to instill Ang democracy into the European Pa It remains to be seen how th delegations react to them and h of their initial verve the new maintain in the Common Ma inery.

Fritz He

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 17 Ja

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■ GOVERNMENT

Brandt's 1973 policy statement is restrained

There is about the same difference between the Willy Brandt who read e statement of government policy in 969 and the Federal Chancellor who on January 1973 read the second such tement, as between the younger and der Goethe.

Willy Brandt has certainly got beyond s Storm and Stress Period, and in place f the old vigorous energy we now see a uch milder and more moderate man. rtain passages of the speech made the ancellor sound much like a preacher of od morals.

Three years ago he was announcing thcoming revolutionary changes in this untry's attitude towards the comunist countries of the East, but this me he was content to express his hopes at the process of detente would make od progress in the years to come.

As far as domestic policies were ncerned he fought shy of specifying ures and deadlines which could be oved wrong and frustrated by unre seen occurrences.

It would be going too far to suggest at Willy Brandt had switched from a ajor to a Minor key, but in the passages his Second Symphony where he cluded trumpets they were always uted.

It would be too simple to put this ange of tone down to the fact that the hancellor is three years older and oming up to his sixtieth birthday. The hree years he has just put behind him were instructive years in which he learnt he dangers of making extravagant promises.

He has not bitten his tongue off, but he as been most careful this time to make ure it does not run away with him!

It was significant that in his reply ainer Barzel had little to criticise in the olicies Brandt had announced on behalf f his government, except to pick up a w slight ambiguities and omissions in e statement. Still, Brandt would rather arify and amend these slight shortomings than have to answer the cusation of having raised false hopes.

The caution and restraint with which new government is setting about its rk can only be welcomed. It is a sign t the new Brandt/Scheel partnership a far more comfortable majority nd it than it had three years ago and ws that it can look forward to a -year legislative period without all the lence of the past three years.

e interesting factor of this latest ment of government policy is the on that exists between the philanpic attitude of sections of the party the belligerent anticipation with another section of the SPD has t into the seventh Bundestag borne on wings of victory.

ther in the content nor in the tone is speech has Willy Brandt made ficant concessions to the left-wing of arty. Those who thought he would is new-found strength to lash out at list industrialists, levy massive taxes roduce a national health service will appointed by this policy statement. has announced adherence to this try's American allies rather than nning the Vietnam War, he has d European union rather than g contacts with the East Bloc and aced a good deal of emphasis on the tance of the producer society rather paying lip-service to the Swedish of welfare State. These were some e bitter pills the so-called prowes will have to swallow and they not take the medicine gladly.

It is a moot point whether Brandt would have produced a more forceful statement if the SPD had an absolute majority. Neither the old nor the new Willy Brandt belongs to the Hotspurs in his party and the new radical left.

But it is possible that consideration for the demands of his liberal coalition partners forced him to give up any ideas he may have had of making radical changes to the existing economic and social structure. The statement made it clear that Brandt is out to avoid any actions that could endanger the existence of the present coalition with the FDP.

It is particularly striking that when dealing with the subject of worker participation in management he based his calculations on the FDP theory of equality for capital and labour leading to a joint solution and giving the managerial side a special role. Businessmen may find themselves under greater pressure in the future, but their greatest fears must have been quieted after this statement. The SPD/FDP coalition has not become a socialist coalition.

All in all Brandt's 1973 statement has shown a good deal more careful range-finding than the 1969 version. Instead of making even more lavish promises than then, Brandt has paid much greater respect to the facts of life. This does not make life any the easier for the Opposition. As Barzel's reply showed, the CDU/CSU will not be able to attack general trends but will have to concentrate on pulling individual details to pieces.

This goes against the grain as far as firebrands like Franz Josef Strauss are concerned and could lead to renewed tensions within the "union" parties.

Their best chance in the short term is to try to spark off conflicts within the government coalition at the statement of policy, since it falls so far short of the cherished dreams of the left wing. Sometimes the CDU has to stand beside the Chancellor when he is in opposition with his more extreme party colleagues.

An inkling of this was shown by the fact that the Opposition expressed its approval of certain passages of this second symphony. The 19 November 1972 elections obviously changed more in Bonn than just the relative strengths of the three main parties.

Wolfgang Wagner

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 January 1973)

Salient points of policy speech

- **Westpolitik:** European union is the foremost aim of Willy Brandt's foreign policy. The programme of work to be carried out, as agreed on at the Paris Summit last year, especially with regard to economic and currency policies, must be completed and the social welfare and democratic aspects of Community work must be bolstered.
- **Ostpolitik:** Apart from "wide-ranging cooperation" with the countries of Eastern Europe the Bonn government is striving towards an amelioration of human conditions and an improvement to contacts between peoples.
- **Vietnam:** "We are prepared to give humanitarian support in both parts of Vietnam and to work alongside other nations in re-building this tormented and battered country when the weapons are finally silenced".
- **Price stabilisation:** Checking the price spiral is the most important task facing the Federal Republic in common with our European partners. Monetary and credit policies remain the classic weapon in this fight.
- **The budget:** Stabilisation must not be based chiefly on cuts in government spending if public works are not to suffer.
- **Capital wealth for the ordinary citizen:** The public should have a share in the productive output of major companies, and the acquisition of houses within the subsidised housing scheme must be made available to more people.
- **Competitiveness:** Healthy competitiveness must be fostered. Brandt called this a major consideration and said that it served the best interests of the public. Bonn would cooperate on the "extension and improvement" of monopolies laws.
- **Consumer protection:** Laws governing the labelling of foodstuffs and medicaments must protect the consumer from deception and damage to health.
- **Tax reforms:** Privileges and subsidies that are no longer justified will be abolished step by step. The government coalition's decisions of 1971 on the cornerstones of reform will remain the basic concept.
- **Pollution:** The cost of disposing of matter destructive to the environment, not a petty offence but "a serious crime", will have to be borne by those responsible.
- **Land laws:** Reform will be a major part of government policy as will reform of local government powers of planning permission. A "land capital gains tax" will be drawn up as a means of combatting irresponsible land speculation.
- **Transport:** "Local public transport will take precedence over the needs of the private traveller". But the building of major highways will continue apace.
- **Education:** This will be high on the list of essential reforms. The number of years at school will be cut to twelve and vocational training will be brought into line with other aspects of education.
- **Universities:** Periods of study are to be shortened, the 'study year' introduced and *Numerus Clausus* gradually abolished. Centres of research and education must be prevented from being converted into political battlefields.
- **The media:** Monopolies legislation will be made to cover a control of mergers of press and other mass media. "Press and broadcasting freedom shall be understood to cover the freedom of people in those professions".
- **Social welfare:** The emphasis will be on rehabilitation of the infirm, especially children. Church welfare organisations will not be interfered with by the State.
- **Worker participation:** Extension of the say of workers in management is "one of our main tasks", based on the right of workers and shareholders in a firm to equality. Personnel representation legislation will extend the say of civil servants in the work of the civil service.
- **Sexual equality:** New marriage and families legislation will be extended giving women their own individual social security. Paragraph 218 (abortion) must be amended in this legislative period.
- **Law reform:** Among other things compensation for the victims of violence must be controlled by law and a common legal basis must be found for a uniform penal system.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 19 January 1973)

Bitter battle behind policy statement

Chancellor Brandt set himself two aims in preparing his statement of government policy: it should not be like 1969's, a bright mail-order house catalogue of beautiful temptations and promises, and should be shorter than the statement he made three years ago.

He achieved the first aim, but fell slightly short of the second. In 1969 when he stepped up to the speaker's table as head of the government for the first time he spoke for ninety minutes. On 18 January 1973 he took 95.

One could sense in a way how Brandt was a prisoner of the time limit he had set himself. As time went on he Chancellor began to speak more hastily ending up with what was almost a series of key-words rather than sentences — this is something we are not used to in him. His delivery is usually slow and deliberate. There was an — albeit intentional — lack of precision in the statement and its delivery became somewhat monotonous.

This haste was just one more aspect of the difficulties the Cabinet experienced in preparing the statement. No one in Bonn can remember a statement that had to be re-written, abbreviated, added to, shortened again and given another working-over so much as this.

The first rough draft was consigned almost in its entirety to the waste basket, because *Der Spiegel* had quoted passages from it. Brandt sent another version by telex from his island retreat of Fuerteventura with instructions that it should be spruced up on arrival in Bonn. When Walter Scheel joined Willy Brandt on the island to begin ironing out their differences the speech-writers had to lay off work entirely for a while. Only when the two top men returned to Bonn could the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor's versions be tied in with the second rough draft and the wishes of individual Cabinet ministers.

But the Chancellor still found it too long, many sections too precise and many spoilt by excessive haste to the extent that they said nothing. There were further deletions, further abbreviation and new additions. From 15 January on, the Cabinet was engaged almost entirely in bringing the statement to a conclusion.

A central typing pool was set up in the Chancellery and the clatter of typewriters hammering out new phrases was ceaseless. Egon Bahr, State Secretaries and senior civil servants worked side by side discussing the work, while the author Klaus Harpprecht took care of the linguistic and literary merits of the speech. Willy Brandt was there too, making late amendments from time to time!

The German put up to the Chancellor by some of the ministries must have been hair-raising. When Brandt finally stood up in the House and read the section of the statement dealing with cultural and educational work abroad and underlined the importance of the living language he added a remark of his own that was not in the original text: "I am speaking from experience culled from some of the texts I have had to read through in the past few days."

At any rate the statement of government policy for the coming legislative period was not built in a day. It was a work of perfectionism.

When Cabinet ministers finally gathered to give their approval of the statement in its final form in the Palais Schaumburg Agriculture Minister Josef Ertl brought them almost to the verge of desperation again when he stated that the passages dealing with land laws were not compatible with the principles of the Freiburg Programme.

For a time there was anything but unanimity among the FDP ranks, since none of the Ministers had a copy of the Freiburg Programme on him. Minister without Portfolio Werner Maihofer, the "father" of the Programme finally laid hands on a copy and allayed Ertl's fears.

The to-ing and fro-ing over the statement frustrated Willy Brandt's intention of handing the statement to Opposition leader Rainer Barzel on the

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■ PENAL AFFAIRS

Criminologists examine criminal behaviour of bank raiders

Frankfurter Rundschau

Professor Würtenberger of Freiburg University's department of criminology and penal system studies recently published a comprehensive two-volume study on "Bank Robberies in the Federal Republic of Germany".

The study, commissioned by the Ministry of Justice, took many years to compile. The department based their investigation on 297 bank robberies occurring between 1964 and 1966.

The 360 criminals arrested stole almost 3.8 million Marks, an average of no more than 12,700 Marks per raid, which will surprise those members of the public who believe that large sums of money are involved.

Seventy of these raids ended in complete failure, in twelve of them the robbers did not obtain more than one thousand Marks and in 71 cases their haul was under five thousand Marks.

The largest total of money stolen was the 230,160 Marks accumulated by one regular criminal in ten bank raids. On his eleventh raid a bank employee overpowered him. The robber had already stuffed over one hundred thousand Marks into the briefcase he normally kept dangled from his neck by a cord.

A conspicuously large number of bank robberies are committed in December – more than twice the monthly total for all months between January and September. The only conclusion is that as advertising reaches saturation point and the shops become full of Christmas goods many criminals feel they need ready cash. On top of this comes the increased expenditure on clothing, heating and lighting during the winter months.

The fewest raids take place in June, amounting to only one quarter of the December total. But this does not mean to say that bank robbers are "on holiday" during this period.

Friday is the favourite day for bank raids and one quarter of all robberies are committed on this day. The most dangerous times for bank employees are shortly after opening and then again between four and six o'clock in the afternoon.

Another trend can be observed, this time in respect to locality: 62 per cent of all raids occur in rural areas. Small branches are the main victims. Half the banks raided only had one employee and he is as isolated in his post as a taxi-driver in his cab.

Only one raid in ten was made on a bank with more than four employees. The investigation by the Freiburg criminology department did not reveal that offenders prefer to deal with female bank employees.

Only 58 of the 360 bank robbers covered by the investigation decided to repeat the offence, 302 of them committed the crime only once. Gang robbery is rare. One group of five robbers – its composition varied from case to case – raided thirteen banks and that was all.

A total of 23 robbers committed more than two robberies. Two offenders working as a team raided eight banks. Another two-man team raided six. We have already mentioned the most successful offender with eleven raids to his credit.

These criminals grow increasingly confident. Robbers toting a loaded gun on their first raid no longer thought it necessary to cock it on the next raid and in subsequent cases they did not even bother to load it.

Fifty of the seventy failures were due to resistance shown by bank employees. Security systems foiled the raiders in fourteen cases. Only 115 of the banks were equipped with alarm systems, 105 of them electric.

Another reason for this low success rate where alarm systems are concerned is the factor of chance. If the alarm is to be raised the employee must be standing in the immediate vicinity of the alarm bell when the raid occurs. Once he has raised his hands it is too late. It also takes a good deal of courage and steady nerves to set off a loud alarm bell.

Bullet-proof cash-boxes and safes foiled robbers in five of the fourteen cases where security systems beat the criminal. In the other nine cases the offender fled without bothering about his haul.

"There is no such thing as a secure bank", the Freiburg investigation concludes. Even the bullet-proof glass partitions that are repeatedly demanded do not always thwart the robber.

The active resistance on the part of employees ranged from the mere refusal to hand over money to actual physical attack. Many of these cases revealed the fearfulness and harmlessness of the criminals. They often ran away before events turned against them. In one case, a robber struck an employee and when this did not have the desired effect was too scared to administer a second blow.

But these cases can also reveal how dangerous the bank robber really is. Resistance can lead to acts of violence. Whatever the case, employees run a great risk when resisting the demands of the criminal. Rarely can they tell for sure whether the offender is harmless and fearful or brutal and dangerous.

The speed with which bank robberies are committed will surprise the layman. More than half the raids – 169 of them – were over in less than two minutes. A total of 109 lasted anything up to five minutes and only nine took up to ten minutes.

When planning their crimes, the offenders always weigh up the pros and cons of masks very carefully. Exactly hal[f] bank robbers wore masks, the ... made no attempts to throw peo[ple off] the scent.

The possibilities are various, ... from sun-glasses to make-up and ... Sun-glasses are most popular an[d] worn by many criminals who w[ould not] wear a mask for fear of impairing ... field of vision and consequently the ... of their reactions.

One of the few women who too[k part] in bank robberies had a wig spe[cially] made for her at a cost of eight hu[ndred] Marks.

Physical strength, though a ... element in most cases of larceny, ... required to such a degree where ... robberies are concerned. Firearms ... replace physical strength, providing ... bank robber with technical superio[rity].

Firearms bestow an element o[f] predictability on the offender a[nd the] threatened victim can never deci[de for] sure whether the gun will be used, ... providing that it is real. While ... robbers carried a real gun, 52 of the[m had] a toy revolver. In only two ca[ses did] employees recognise the fact that ... was a toy and resist.

Many bankrobbers had a knife, r... eon, hammer, mallet, ether or a gas ... Firearms were used in eight raids, l... to the death of two employees. I... cases, shots were fired into the air ... as the criminals entered the bank ... to warn employees against any ... resistance from the outset.

Criminals who tend to shoot ... very highly esteemed among bank r... as the use of a firearm is consider[ed] a breach of their code. It often ... that cashiers hand over all the m[oney as] quickly as possible as they see th[e] criminal's hand is shaking and fear ... will fire from sheer nervousness.

The Freiburg investigation, pu[blished] by Ferdinand Enke of Stuttgart, ... length with the typical character ... bank robber and the courts' reac[tion to] him. It calculates that two third[s of] raids are committed with ... harmless weapons. "The offend[er] exploits the dangerous reputation ... robbers," the report states.

Hand grenades have never bee[n used in] bank raids in this country as they ... the United States. *Gerhard* ...

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 9 Janu[ary 1973])

Unique parole system introduced in Frankfurt

Compared with colleagues at other prisons in the Federal Republic, 31 prisoners in Frankfurt have an unusual daily programme. Between six and seven o'clock in the morning they leave their prison, singly and without guard, and take a tram to their place of work.

During the afternoon they stroll around town, visit their families or go to the cinema. They are always back at the prison punctually at eight o'clock in the evening. So far only one of the prisoners has not returned.

This experiment at the Gustav Radbruch Haus in Frankfurt, a twelve-year-old prison long known for its liberal regime, began with the guidelines issued on 1 April 1972 by Hesse Minister of Justice Karl Hemfler (SPD).

The guidelines far exceed what is at present contained in the penal system regulations and, by taking the greatest advantage of the so-called right of pardon, anticipate much of what is to be introduced under the nationwide penal reform proposals.

The system operating in Frankfurt is without precedent in Europe and is based on two considerations:

• Why should a prisoner not earn a regular wage during his period of captivity and thus contribute to the upkeep of his family and, in certain cases, compensate for the damage he has caused?

• Is it not better to give prisoners who have been locked up for many years a period during which they can adapt to their impending freedom, similar to the system of "night-patients" in some mental hospitals?

The scheme was put into operation on 1 July 1972 and at first covered only three prisoners. Since then it has been extended to 43 of the inmates. Applications must be made by the prisoners themselves. The prisoner must have served at least twelve months and have another twelve months in front of him.

It is not only the harmless, well-behaved or even submissive prisoners who are considered for the scheme. The 43 inmates currently benefiting from the scheme include two prisoners jailed for life, one prisoner with more than twenty offences against his name (all however minor) and three cases of incest.

The prisoners are first of all sent to the local labour exchange and most of them are given work within two days. Jobs range from programmer to unskilled labourer. One inmate however had to wait a fortnight before receiving work – he wanted to return to his previous job of accountant.

Prisoners covered by the scheme on the whole find it easier to find work than released prisoners. The firm knows they are under strict supervision. The prisoners themselves are generally punctual and do not take days off, claiming they are sick.

Wages have to be paid to the Gustav Radbruch Haus – but only for purposes of administration. The money is not taken over completely as at other prisons. Sixty Marks a month have to be paid as rent. Food has to be bought outside the prison. Many of the prisoners bring it back with them to the prison and cook it in the kitchen. The rise in prices never fails to astonish those prisoners who have come to the Gustav Radbruch Haus after many years at a conventional prison.

A certain percentage of the wages goes towards maintaining families, re-paying damage and building up a savings account which proves very useful after release.

The balance is astonishing. The total net income of all prisoners covered by the scheme has so far totalled 67,796.30 Marks. More than fifty thousand Marks have been spent on maintenance and compensation. A good five thousand Marks have been saved.

Seven prisoners have been released before their sentences have elapsed as a result of their good behaviour. But the privileges enjoyed by prisoners ... by the scheme have had to be wit[hdrawn] in five cases.

One prisoner took advantag[e of his] privileges to abscond, as the ... report puts it – he was recently ... Frankfurt station, distributing pa[mphlets] for the Jesus People.

Only one of them returned to c[rime –] shoplifting. The ironic thing abou[t it was] that he had been the model p[risoner] among the 43. Nobody knew tha[t he had] been a serious alcoholic before hi[s ...]

Two prisoners regularly turned [up for] work late. The special concern ... the inclusion of prisoners servi[ng a life] sentence in the scheme is pr[oving] groundless, as experiences i[n other] Federal states demonstrate.

The parole system at Gustav R[adbruch] Haus will be extended even fu[rther in] future. Then one prisoner, in ... spend only his nights at the insti[tution].

The problems of this trend ... different sector. There is the ... two-class penal system. Parole ... be practised where there is ... stimulus to return to the institu[tion].

Prisons where inmates hav[e a say in] decision-making, where join[t ...] organised, facilities are goo[d, the] internal atmosphere relaxed ... been no disciplinary meas[ures for] months) are few and far bet[ween] ... other prisons can only dream ... of this type. *Joachim* ...

(Die Welt, 10 ...)

■ BONN

Latest Bundestag handbook is not very informative

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

Work has been intense recently in the administrative section of the Bundestag in Bonn. Five specialists are currently compiling a book that should be published at the end of March.

This will be the seventh edition of the publication and each of the thirty thousand copies will contain 819 pages and weigh at least three pounds. The tome will not only inform interested readers about the exact wording of Basic Law and the composition of Bundestag committees and working parties – it also provides the photograph and biography of each of the 518 Bundestag members.

The title of the book is inscribed on the dark-green binding – "Official Handbook of the Deutscher Bundestag".

The handbook will not be restricted to members themselves. The Bundestag is supplying libraries, adult education centres and trade unions with eighteen thousand free copies.

"After all, this volume is the most important source of information about the composition of the Bundestag that the public has," Helmut Schellknecht, head of the administrative section, comments.

Schellknecht's staff are rather sceptical about the date of publication. "We'll never have it ready by March," one of them sighed. "Fifteen per cent of the Bundestag members have yet to supply their personal details and this time everything's different."

Everything is indeed different. The Bundestag Handbook for the seventh legislative period plans to institute new rules of parliamentary behaviour as a result of the adviser contract scandals surrounding former Parliamentary State Secretaries Dorn and Raffert.

Bundestag members have been asked to state their outside interests in the short biography they provide for the handbook so that voters will be able to see whether it is their interests alone that their member is representing in the Bundestag.

Members have been asked to reveal the posts and commissions they have been given as a result of their privileged position, the firms, institutions, publishing concerns and associations they work for in a part-time capacity and the contracts they have signed with associations and organisations.

Some members have voiced their objections but Helmut Schellknecht tries to overcome their doubts: "We are not snooping. The individual member is responsible for the information."

Nobody has yet thought of appointing a committee to act as a control here but one factor is already apparent – though many members are doing their best to shed light on what has often remained obscure in the past, a large number are not taking the request seriously and are supplying information in slapdash fashion.

Deadlines are tight for the staff of the administrative section and information is still only trickling in. A number of committee members still have to be appointed and it is not yet possible to provide accurate information.

A week after the election, on 27 November 1972, Bundestag members first received a letter asking them for biographical data and three passport photographs as soon as possible.

The questionnaire covered two pages and asked for every conceivable item of information down to wife's surname and the foreign languages spoken.

But not all members have treated the subject as seriously as the handbook compilers would have liked. Many of them leave their secretaries to answer the questions and those who have sat in the Bundestag for many years do what they have done before – they neatly cut out the section of the old handbook dealing with their previous career and send it to the compilers of the new handbook.

They also include the passport photographs as demanded but many of them are already so old that they display a full head of hair, though little evidence of this former glory can now be observed.

But not everybody takes the easy way out. "Queries are coming in all the time," Schellknecht reports. "A number of members would like to record that they belong to the Red Cross but we are not really interested in such trivial details."

The newer members in Bonn thought that an informative handbook of this type had some promise but they are not so optimistic today. Many members are merely giving the amount of harmless information they believe is indispensable.

The chance of making the social structure of the Bundestag plainer or recording the interest groups that are most commonly represented in the Bundesag has been missed.

Walter Keim, a government administrator, political scientist, sociologist and historian, compiles analyses of this type in his free time and he complains that a better method of obtaining informative results should have been found.

The information the politicians provide about their profession only serves to confirm Keim's fears. Most Bundestag members write the first thing that comes into their head.

Both Chancellor Willy Brandt and Social Democrat floor leader describe themselves as journalists though they have been full-time politicians for over twenty years. Gerhard Schröder styles himself a lawyer though he too has been a professional politician for twenty years.

Margret Kämpf

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 January 1973)

Policy statement battle

Continued from page 3

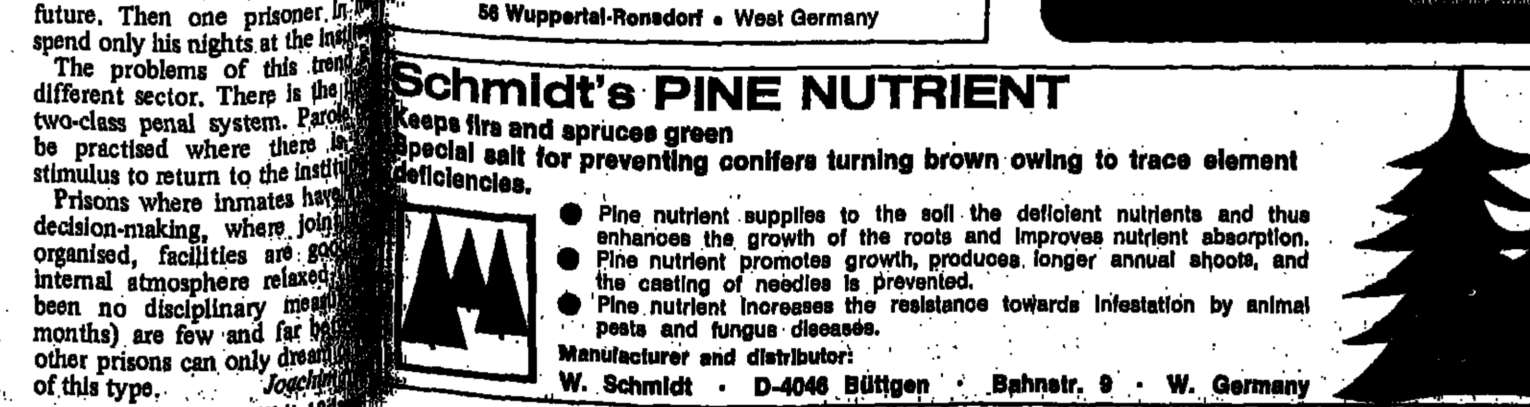
morning of the day before it was to be delivered.

Barzel waited – Wednesday morning, lunchtime, afternoon and evening came and went. Barzel says that at two o'clock on the Thursday morning he looked in his letterbox for his copy of the statement but again in vain.

It was not until 5.15 am that morning that a government courier finally delivered the statement to Barzel's private residence. Not till then could the early-rising Barzel begin to formulate his reply.

Hans Jorg Sottorf

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 January 1973)





■ ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Economics and Finance Ministers get to work on prices

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

It seems fitting that the most important outstanding economic and industrial policy decisions have to be made now at the beginning of a new year and the outset of a new legislative period in the Bundestag.

The 1973 budget must be prepared in a form ready to present to the Bundestag in February. The first wage-scale decision in the metal industries, which will certainly affect the efforts being made to regain stability and not make this task any easier, has fallen due at this time.

Further pay decisions and negotiations in the civil service are around the corner. Whatever shortcomings dog the first three months of 1973 cannot be made up later in the year for sure. The new government must be on the *qui-vive* right from the outset.

The new Ministers for Finance and Economic Affairs, Helmut Schmidt and Hans Friderichs, made it quite clear in which spheres the bulk of their work would be done, shortly after they took office. Not surprisingly the first thing that become clear was that the dissolution of the super-ministry for economics and finance had certainly not left the two Ministers with a shortage of work! For eighteen months economics and finance have been sold somewhat short with the combined ministry – now there is a chance to make up lost ground.

One does not have to search long to find out which sectors were treated like orphans in the last legislative period. Tax reform is certainly one of them. Politicians and experts must make their next move speedily unless they want to lose the room for manoeuvre they already enjoy. One of the main requirements is that they should not underestimate the quite considerable amount of preparation that must be made to financial administration before significant tax reforms can be made.

As far as the Economic Affairs Ministry is concerned one important item on the agenda is fuel and power policy. Years ago Hans Friderichs accused his predecessor Karl Schiller of not having a consistent fuel and power policy. Now he has to try to do better himself, and the situation is critical. Competitiveness of industry and structural policy are further tasks demanding the complete attention of the Economic Affairs Minister.

However important these policies may be, it is not on them that the government will be judged. Our national economy is part of the European and world economies. It is precisely the increased integration in Europe that has made the Five Wise Men enter into a detailed study in their latest report on how far it is now possible to carry out a stabilisation policy on a purely national basis.

Among the instruments still at the disposal of national governments is the incomes policy – although this is not a particularly powerful weapon. There is not an incomes policy in the narrowest sense with a wages and prices freeze in the Federal Republic. No one wants one and it would not fit into the system.

Thus, if the government wants to take action it is forced to make it indirect. It must encourage and persuade – and it can threaten that if the two sides of industry try to spoil what it is trying to do it will hit back through the medium of taxation!

It is only in the civil service, where Bonn sits on one side of the negotiating table, that the government can force its wishes to become reality. But it is hard to satisfy the civil service with low pay increase rates when private industries are allowing much higher rates.

Economic Affairs Minister Friderichs is due to meet DGB Chairman Oskar Vetter and the President of the National Confederation of Employers Associations Otto A. Friedrich.

Their talks must touch on the statement of government policy, due towards the end of January, but they will certainly also discuss the situation regarding pay in industry. Friderichs has made it quite clear that he will be presenting both sides of industry with a detailed economic balance sheet, so that they will be able to see in advance the results of whatever actions they plan to take.

It is to be hoped that these high-level talks are not being held too late and that they will exercise an influence on the rounds of collective bargaining still to come.

The government has no lack of good intentions and programmes. There is still the fifteen-point plan to counter further price increases put forward in October 1972.

There are also the stabilisation suggestions put forward by the EEC Council of Ministers – although these are couched in fairly vague terms and are riddled with exceptions. There is the "strategy for controlled growth" developed by the committee of economic experts, the Five Wise Men. There is no lack of theories at all – what is needed is for some of them to be put into action.

The Opposition should cooperate. If we could get away from the situation that prevailed in the last Bundestag with government and Opposition vying to see who could spend most we would be a step along the way.

The moderation shown by one of the CDU's economics experts, Ernst Müller-Hermann, in recent days gives rise to a few embryonic hopes.

Many of those who are making the restoration of stability their concern have become a little more modest in their aims.

The first aim of the government is to make the rise in prices in this country the lowest rate in Europe. But they should not overlook the fact that much of what happens in Europe is brought about to a large extent by the Federal Republic.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 9 January 1973)

Bonn outlines trends till 1977

Our economy is approaching growth limits. There is a short... staff to take vacant jobs and ther... limits to the productive potential ... technical sector.

In figures recently published by ... showing probable economic trends ... 1977 it is stated that about 500,000 ... 600,000 more West German workers ... leave work than will take up a j... causing a staff shortage.

If general political aims limited ... number of foreign workers to be dra... in to this country to about 2,500,000 ... room for economic growths in the per... up till 1977 would automatically be ... back even further.

Another factor is that funds which ... have been used for further ... investment and expansion will have to ... provided for protection of the envir... ment and prevention of further pollu... This will also hamper general econ... growth.

The government report also states ... if it were possible to check price ... more sharply than expected exp... would automatically benefit, causin... loss of equilibrium in the basic balan... trade which it will not be possib... restore.

Bonn economic experts reckon on ... following developments in the next ... years:

- The number of working people ... remain the same or drop by 0.5 per ce...
- Hours worked will drop by betw... 0.5 and 0.7 per cent.
- The unemployment quota will ... between one and 1.2 per cent.
- The number of foreign workers ... will hover between 2,500,000 and ... million.
- Productivity per employed person ... increase by four to 4.5 per cent, and ... hour by 4.8 to 5.1 per cent.
- The gross national product will incre... by a real 3.8 to 4.3 per cent – that is ... say after deduction of increases caused ... price rises.
- The cost of living in private househo... will rise between 3.3 and 3.8 per cent.
- Basic pay per worker will increas... between eight and nine per cent.

Gert Tigges

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 11 January 1973)

Economic experts agree on 1973 forecasts

At the turn of the year there was one major difference in experts' judgments of the economic situation as compared with one year ago – they were much more in agreement than in 1971/72!

Then there was still the spectre of recession frightening many. Prognoses and recommendations were highly contradictory. Now the experts are pretty much in agreement that the upward swing will soon be under way and that the main concern must be about prices, which are still inflationary.

This general agreement is not based solely on national economic and industrial indications, which were far from unanimous up until recently. It is much more the developments on the international economic scene that bolster up this appraisal of the situation.

The Five Wise Men said it all clearly a month ago: "The increasing interlocking of international economic and industrial trends means that economic developments in the Federal Republic are as much influenced by as influencing developments abroad. The question of what is produced in the Federal Republic, and what quantities of it, is decided by numerous investors and consumers all over the world."

The international economic situation at the turn of the year can be summed up thus: Europe will catch up with the United States and Japan in terms of productivity growth and, according to experts, probably enjoy the largest growth in productivity. Above all investments will be up. But some of the major differences will not be swept away. Countries with high unemployment, such as Italy, will not be able to overcome this problem overnight.

This unemployment is partly due to structural faults that are easier to combat in a period of economic growth, but the unemployment problem cannot simply be brushed aside by expansion. Another factor is that a higher level of productivity per worker will enable higher production levels without necessitating employing extra staff.

Last year economic growth was largely carried by private and public spending and the building trade. But for the past few weeks there have been signs of the long-awaited expansion of investment. Exports are not expected to give the economy such a boost as in earlier economic cycles.

The OECD has prophesied that the Federal Republic will utilise production capacities practically to the optimum level in 1973. But economic research institutes feel that this will only be the case if the policies involved in the attempt to restore stable prices do not make excessive inroads.

Above all it is important to ensure that the burden is not placed entirely on the shoulders of the Bundesbank. Government spending will have to toe the line just as much as the two sides of industry. The wage-scale agreement recently concluded for the steel industry showed a high level of responsibility and this is a most encouraging sign.

However encouraging the prospects may be with regard to productivity the situation with regard to prices is far from pleasing. Once again the Federal Republic can take cold comfort from other countries where the situation is similar.

In Western Europe the acceleration in the rate of price rises has come at an extraordinarily early stage in the economic cycle. One cause of this has been the rise in food prices. But industry has been hit as well and the cost (in wages) per item has risen, a facet that is normally only seen in the later stages of the economic cycle.

What hopes are there for any stabilisation policy this country might adopt? The more interwoven economies become, the greater the risk of imported inflation, for as the economic upswing gets under way exports are boosted disproportionately. Thus the effects of one country's fight against inflation being faster than its neighbours are felt across the border in the neighbouring country.

It is hard to tie in the actions taken by a country with high unemployment with the kind of actions the Federal Republic can afford to take.

Differing national anti-inflation policies can cause floods of hot money, though this problem is not in evidence at present. If this happens to the Federal Republic the counter-measures will have to be more or less dirigistic, though this is contrary to the interests of the economic and monetary union, which requires greater integration among EEC partners.

So 1973 will be a difficult year and checking price rises must take top priority. If this is overdone the economic upswing will be cut short in its stride. The greater this country's success in walking the tightrope is, the most difficult it will become to protect our equilibrium from other countries' measures, which could throw us off balance.

At the moment national stabilisation measures and preparations for the EMU are mutually exclusive.

Gerhard Schaub

(Die Welt, 8 January 1973)

■ TRADE & COMMERCE

Moscow ousts Bonn as Peking's 3rd biggest trade partner

Since it does not publish foreign trade figures or the results of trade fairs no exact summary of China's foreign trade can be made. It is estimated, however, that The People's Republic's foreign trade in 1971 was up by about nine per cent on 1970 and amounted to $4,700 million. China's *exports* were up by fifteen per cent at $2,400 million. But *imports* are believed to have risen by only three per cent to $2,300 million. China's balance of foreign trade for the year is believed to have shown a surplus of about $120 million. It is thought that in the past year China's foreign trade was up by seven to ten per cent and amounted to something over five milliard dollars.

No substantial changes have been made to the structure of Chinese foreign trade, although in the year before last imports from Western European countries were down and trade with East Bloc countries increased considerably.

In 1971 China's exports to non-communist countries rose by thirteen per cent on 1970 while imports from the Free World were down by two per cent.

Japan remains China's most important trading partner. In 1971 China's trade with Japan amounted to $901.8 million, a ten per cent increase over 1970. China bought goods from Japan worth in all $578.5 million and exported goods to Japan valued at $323.3 million.

Small in size but large in importance for Red China is its neighbour Hong Kong, its second largest trading partner and the main importer of Chinese goods, *bar none*. This of course, shows more than anything what a drop in the ocean of world trade China's foreign trading is.

The Federal Republic remained China's third most important trading partner. The volume of Sino-Federal Republic trade in 1971 was $234 million, a drop of seven per cent as compared with 1970. Chinese exports to this country increased from $84 million in 1970 to $95 million the following year. In the same period Chinese imports from West Germany were down from $167 million to $139 million.

Peking's trade with communist countries in 1971 reached an astonishing $1,050 million, an increase of 25 to thirty per cent over 1970. Communist countries were involved in about 23 per cent of China's foreign trading. The proportion of trade with the People's Republic of China enjoyed by the communist world should be up again when 1972 figures are published, probably by quite a large margin.

China's volume of trade with the Soviet Union reached $154 million. In June 1972 a new Sino-Soviet trade agreement was signed, which meant that the volume of trade for the year would be up to $288 million. This would mean that the Soviet Union would oust the Federal Republic from third place.

In the near future it is unlikely that there will be spectacular increases in China's foreign trade. Chinese imports are likely to remain concentrated on industrial equipment and raw materials. But for some time the Chinese have been concentrating on improving their infrastructure, especially where transport is concerned and purchases of aeroplanes, ships, locomotives, lorries and buses clearly indicate this trend.

A large amount will have to be spent from China's foreign exchange reserves to buy grain in years to come. In the coming year China will be importing more than six million tons of grain, 400,000 tons of it from the United States, the first time communist China has purchased grain from America. Chinese trade with the United States is only slowly getting under way.

At the autumn fair in Canton – one of the two Canton fairs at which China concludes more than half its foreign trade – there were 75 American salesman, but they only managed to do deals worth $25 million among them.

There cannot be a substantial growth in China's foreign trade until Peking gives up its present trading policy of accepting no credits. Up till now it has been an intrinsic part of the Chinese economy to rely on its own strength and not to run up any debts. But this policy means demanding too much of the present generation and not doing enough for the next.

Christian Roll

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 7 January 1973)

Chemicals industries pick up in 1972

Six per cent was the key to the progress of Federal Republic chemical industries in 1972. This third largest branch of Federal Republic industry (after machinery manufacture and electronics) achieved an increase of six per cent in turnover, profits and exports, according to the chemical industries association. The association expects similar figures for this year.

Turnover in chemicals is therefore up to about 55 milliard Marks. Those sectors of this branch that are in most direct contact with the consumer, such as cosmetics, detergents, pharmaceuticals and photographic articles, did rather better than other sectors on account of the continued rise in the public's spending power.

Exports, which in previous years have been a prime mover behind growth in the chemicals industries, lost much of their momentum in 1972. The six-per-cent increase meant that exports were in line with the growth of turnover and yield. The value of West German chemicals exports increased to 21 milliard Marks. Imports were up by only four per cent to 11,500 million Marks.

In 1970 and 1971 inroads of thirty and ten per cent respectively were made into profits in these industries.

Price levels in the chemicals industries in 1972 were still 2.5 per cent lower than ten years previously in 1962.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 28 December 1972)

Dearer cigs still sell

September's increase in tobacco duties has failed to hit cigarette sales. The Exchequer has been proved right in assuming that the tax increase would not lead to a decline in revenue.

The end of cigarette ads on TV will not seriously affect cigarette sales either. They will continue to increase, though not as repidly as in the past.

The tobacco industry in the Federal Republic is dominated by four major manufacturers headed by Reemtsma with a forty-per-cent share of the market.

The increase in tobacco duties, then, has failed to affect cigarette sales in this country. In September, the first month of higher retail prices, 674,3 million Marks were netted in revenue as against 658,2 million in August and 584 million in September 1971.

The Exchequer was right in assuming that the tax increase would not induce smokers to limit the number of cigarettes they smoked. No decline in sales need be expected as a result of the end of TV advertising at the end of 1972 either. The launching of new brands has shown that smokers are not influenced overmuch by advertising spots. They remain faithful to the brand they have often smoked for years. smoked for years.

Since 1960 more than 230 new brands have been introduced, 31 in 1971 alone. Most of them fail to catch on and are either axed or carried along by the brand leaders. In order to be an economic proposition a new brand must sell at least 100 million a month. This is a feat very few newcomers pull off.

The domestic market is dominated by four major manufacturers. The Reemtsma group head the list with a current market share of forty per cent, thirty per cent for Reemtsma directly and ten and a half per cent for Roth-Händle.

The runners-up are BAT with a good 28 per cent, a share that is slowly on the increase, followed by Brinkmann with between 21 and 22 per cent.

The fourth firm, Haus Neuerburg, commands a far more modest five-per-cent share of the market and between them the big four account for some 95 per cent of domestic sales.

Of the remaining five per cent a third each are sold by Philip Morris and Austria and the then remaining one and a half per cent are also-rans.

The retail value of the number of cigarettes sold in a month is a little over 1,000 million Marks. Cigars account for a more modest 65 million Marks or so, shag for fifteen million and pipe tobaccos for a mere ten million Marks.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 4 December 1972)

Industry optimistic for 1973

Industrialists feel that 1973 could be a vintage year for investors. This prognosis is based on the development in demand which has already begun and seems to be running smoothly without excesses and the sudden increase in in-coming orders dating from last October, which is regarded as a reliable gauge of the climate for investments.

But the general feeling in industry is that one or two other prerequisites must be fulfilled before bealthy investment can get under way. It is up to the two sides of industry on the one hand and the government's economic policymakers on the other to fulfil these requirements and the onus is shared about equally.

Optimism is also being expressed about export potential. According to the Federal Republic Industries Association worldwide stagnation seems to have been overcome and growth is on the cards. Experimentation with exchange rate policies is ruled out, because of the entry of three new members to the EEC.

This impulse, which is the spur for so many investment plans, should not be destroyed by imperilling international competitiveness as a result of costing.

Following an investigation carried out by the Association the following prospects for the future in certain specific branches have been drawn up:

The motor manufacturing industries expect better results than in 1972, especially as there is an economic upswing under way in many of the countries to which the Federal Republic exports. The main dangers come from wage demands, since the motor trade above all must keep a careful control of prices to remain competitive against countries that enjoy advantages with regard to currency exchange and low wage bills.

Oil companies are expecting an increase this year in the consumption of primary energy by 5.5 per cent and that the domestic usage of oil will be up by between seven and eight per cent. At the same time an increase of five per cent in the gross national product is expected, which justifies optimism about the growth of the oil industry. In the interests of meeting the higher requirements of energy oil companies will be making larger investments throughout 1973.

The textiles industry expects similar developments to last year's with a good level of overall growth despite vastly differing returns from different sectors. One major cause of uncertainty in this branch is the unpredictability of how imports will go. Last year textiles exports were up by four per cent, but imports increased by nineteen per cent!

The building trade predicts another considerable rise in prices in 1973. The boom in house-building is likely to cool off, but orders for civil engineering, road-building and the like should be up on last year.

All sectors of the building trade are expecting a fairly even rate of growth of between three and five per cent. A good boost is expected from government orders, which make up about forty per cent of the total amount of building work. The chemical industries also expect to make further improvements to their profits situation in 1973.

Though business should be improving in the steel industry it is not expected that there will be much in the way of improved profits this year. Higher national demand for steel is taken as a sign of greater activity to come, especially in the capital investment goods industries. As far as machinery production is concerned the industry hopes to be able to alleviate the concern about the level of employment that was expressed last year.

Generally speaking no disastrous inroads are expected. The profits situation may not improve yetawhile, however, and the machinery manufacturing industries see no reason for excessive optimism after mid-year when outstanding orders have been cleared up.

Shipbuilding is one industry where employment is particularly endangered, especially in the small to medium-sized yards. One positive aspect is the OECD agreement that shipbuilding subsidies should be withdrawn step by step. This should give West German shipyards a greater opportunity to compete on favourable terms.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 5 January 1973)

Ertl wants to keep more on the farm

Agriculture still has an important rôle to play in our modern industrialised society, Josef Ertl, the Minister for Agriculture and Food stated in a recent radio interview. He said, however, that farming needed to go through "a very difficult process of adjustment and change in the most diverse forms."

Herr Ertl appealed to farmers to show greater confidence in their own capabilities.

According to the Minister, one and a half million people employed in farming left the land between 1960 and 1972. In 1970/71 the number who quit farming was 170,000 and in the 1971/72 period as many as 190,000.

This, he said, means that the move from the land to other professions has reached excessive proportions. If the trend is not slowed down even those farms that are well-structured and viable will be endangered.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 2 January 1973)



■ AVIATION

Airline pilots claim overwork is a safety hazard

WELT am SONNTAG

Airline pilots in this country are overburdened. They fear air safety will be seriously in danger unless their working hours regulations are revised.

Cockpit, the pilots' association to which most commercial aircrews in this country belong, is nonetheless quick to refute one particularly persistent allegation.

"There is," one flight captain commented, "not the slightest chance of the entire crew dozing off in the course of a long run and the aircraft flying on under automatic controls."

An afternoon nap in the cockpit of an airliner crossing the North Atlantic would as it happens endanger neither the passengers nor the aircraft.

Stories that crews of British airliners have had to be shaken before waking up prior to landing are considered by pilots in this country to be no more than Press rumours.

This is not, of course, to say that pilots cannot suffer from biorhythmic disturbances as a result of time differences. As they fly across continents they are bound to grow tired.

The pilots claim that the 110 hours a month flying time laid down by the authorities are too much.

"Two pilots without either a navigator or an engineer may work up to fourteen hours a day, or twelve hours in the air," a Cockpit spokesman states. "That is too much. A commercial vehicle driver, for instance, is only allowed to spend eight hours a day at the wheel."

Airline crews, by way of comparison, can work fourteen hours in 24, to which must be added at least two hours preparation. And no distinction is drawn between night and day.

Pilots field an argument taken from the world of insects. "Flies," they say, "normally ply a small area. Time differences do not affect their daily rhythm over a lifespan of 125 days.

"The daily rhythm of a number of flies was altered under laboratory conditions. Once a week they flew to Chicago. The hours of light and dark were reshuffled six hours on each occasion. These flies survived only 100 days."

The pilots have been lent scientific backing by Professor Joseph Rutenfranz, head of the department of labour medicine at Giessen University.

Pilots, he says, have to sleep at all hours of the day and night. On flights in the course of which they pass through several time zones the normal 24-hour rhythm is interrupted.

"As they never stay in one place for more than three or four days their sleep is disturbed, their appetite goes by the board and their sense of social well-being also suffers," Professor Rutenfranz says.

"When they arrive at New Delhi or Chicago and feel they could do with breakfast then breakfast is what they ought to be served."

Cockpit comes to the following conclusion: "As commercial reasons preclude the possibility of contouring take-off and landing times to the requirements of human efficiency the only possible compromise to cater for times at which the pilot's system reaches a low point is to limit the number of hours he may work."

"Taken on its own a reduction in flying time can only prove effective on short runs at night-time." On long runs pilots are susceptible to the negative influences of changes in location.

These consist not only of disturbances of biological rhythm but also of differences in climate between one country and the next and of nutritional problems.

Both Professor Rutenfranz and the pilots association agree that organisational solutions to these problems have yet to be provided.

After long flights pilots are bound to grow tired. They fly on regardless but feel that a risk is involved and are waiting for the Federal government to act.

Gerd Scharnhorst

(Welt am Sonntag, 7 January 1973)

Opel ousts VW in car sales

DIE WELT

In the first eleven months of last year 2.02 million private saloon and estate cars were sold in the Federal Republic and West Berlin, according to the Flensburg motor vehicle registration office. The corresponding figure for 1971 was 2.05 million. 1972 sales of new cars were thus nearly two per cent down on the year before.

Volkswagen topped the league tables as ever with sales of 522,937 units, albeit representing a roughly thirteen-per-cent decline in relation to the previous year's figures.

What is more, sales of VWs as opposed to other divisions of Volkswagen declined fourteen per cent to 393,181 units and second place in the league stakes.

Sales of Opels increased by more than twelve per cent to 429,958 units, making the Rüsselsheim, Frankfurt, division of General Motors the country's leading make.

Ford of Cologne also failed to equal 1971 sales figures, falling back from 298,708 to 265,860 units.

Sales of Mercedes and BMWs increased, though, from 152,737 to 159,808 and from 83,353 to 90,830 units respectively.

The two major foreign imports, Fiat and Renault, also sold fewer new models, sales of Fiats declining from 148,101 to 142,384 and of Renaults from 144,244 to 137,852 units respectively.

(Die Welt, 2 January 1973)

Twenty years of postwar Lufthansa

Twenty years ago, on 6 January 19.. a civil aviation company was set .. restore the fortunes of the p.. Deutsche Lufthansa, which vanis.. virtually without trace in the final da.. the Second World War. Nineteen mo.. later the newly-formed company .. renamed Deutsche Lufthansa like .. predecessor.

A twentieth anniversary may be n.. ing spectacular but in view of the pa.. which civil aviation has developed a g.. deal has happened in the course of t.. two decades.

January 6 is a historic date .. Lufthansa in more than one respect. T.. airlines merged 47 years ago, o.. January 1926, to form the orig.. Lufthansa.

"Here at Lufthansa," Press spokes.. Helmut Kaulich says, "we did not .. intend to celebrate the twentieth ann.. sary, but now that everyone has po.. out the fact we have no option b.. register the event.

Lufthansa's figures are nothing to .. ashamed of: between the resumptio.. flights on 31 March 1955 and the en.. last year 56.65 million passengers h.. been carried on a total of 1.05 mil.. flights.

In the first year of operations ele.. propeller-driven aircraft conveyed 74.. passengers. Lufthansa boast a cur.. fleet of 79 jets.

In air traffic to and from all corne.. the world Lufthansa machines h.. covered a total of 1,270 million k.. metres, equivalent to 1,650 journe.. the Moon and back.

One hardly needs reminding that .. beginnings of postwar civil aviation i.. country were not a bed of roses .. difficult enterprise beset by A.. suspicions. Lufthansa started out life .. a mere six million Marks in capital, w.. was hardly likely to set the world o.. either.

It was slow and nerveracking .. progressing from domestic to i.. national flights and emerging fro.. red as regards finances. Hanover, a m.. intersection in the prewar Lufth.. network, was not reopened to civil tr.. until nineteen months after Lufth.. were back in the air, on 7 October 19..

Lufthansa currently employ a payr.. of 17,000 men and women. Progr.. continues even though difficulties a.. now and again.

Arthur Wilk..

(Neue Hannoversche Presse, 6 January 19..)

Technicians examine behaviour of sunken vessels

Regardless whether ships sink bow first, stern first or sideways they almost invariably reach the seabed in a hydrodynamically convenient position. They land horizontally and the right way up and then start to rust.

This applies no matter what kind of vessel is involved. In principle the way in which they sink remains the same. After a swift downward motion into Davy Jones' locker they slow down after a few hundred fathoms.

Were, for instance, the *Otto Hahn*, this country's nuclear merchantman, to sink bow first the stern would follow at a speed of nearly 65 feet per second.

The midship where the reactor is housed would descend at a speed of roughly 45 feet per second and in the final stage of its descent the *Otto Hahn* would plunge towards the seabed at a speed of thirty feet per second or so.

The Hamburg Shipbuilding Research Institute has conducted trials with scale models to determine the behaviour of sinking ships. Their descent has been observed from an underwater platform.

There are, of course, serious reasons for scale-model trials of this kind. It is, for instance, imperative to know how radiation damage resulting from destruction of the reactor casing of the Otto Hahn's nuclear propulsion unit can be prevented.

In the event of an emergency safety valves open to allow water to pour into the container so as to offset seabed pressure. One of the purposes of the Hamburg trials was to determine the size of valves needed.

The crews of sunken submarines, specifically those of nuclear subs that operate at great depths, likewise stand to benefit from the results of the Hamburg research programme. As submarines are also more than likely to land on the seabed horizontal and upright the safety hatches can be located accordingly.

Once they are ensconced on the seabed ships can present further problems, particularly if they are located in shallow and busy waters. They represent a grave hazard to surface shipping. Collisions with wrecks recur time and time again.

In view of the increasing size of shipping (container vessels and supertankers) and draughts of eleven fathoms and more wrecks are growing steadily more important. They must be located, investigated, removed and kept under control.

The Federal Republic Hydrographical Institute contributes towards this work in the North Sea and the Baltic by means of its survey vessels *Atair* and *Wega*.

Wrecks are located by means of sonar devices. The sound waves emitted from the survey vessel are reflected to the surface by exposed sections of the wrecked ship.

Often, though, wrecks are almost completely covered in sand and a line is cast between two vessels travelling abreast to locate them.

Whenever possible wrecks are blown up and cleared once located. Frequently they stay put, however, and their exact position and depth are noted in navigational charts.

This is not all, though. Wrecks continue for some time to move around on the seabed and continual checks must be conducted to determine their exact position.

Depending on the nature of seabed and current waterholes develop in the vicinity of wrecks. The bow or stern of the sunken ship are swilled into the hole and the midship may well break up in the process. The result is frequently a jagged edge of hull representing a real danger to shipping where beforehand the wreck was tucked away at a safe depth.

Gerhard Taube

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 January 1973)

Electrical engineering data centre

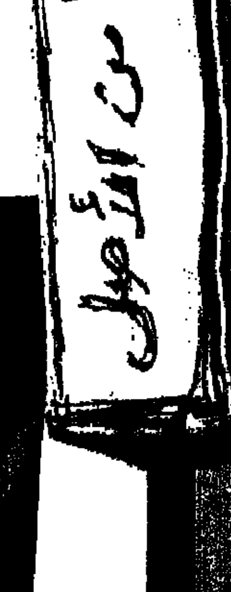
Systematic registration and process.. of specialist publications and .. constant source of information are .. the Association of Federal Rep.. Electrical Engineers (VDE) hopes .. provide with the aid of the elec.. engineering data centre recently esta.. ed.

According to a survey conducted in .. industry specialist literature is system.. tically processed in only one firm .. twenty employing 200 people or less, .. firm in four employing between 200 .. 1,000 staff and every other firm wi.. payroll of between 2,000 and 5,000.

Only major firms in electrical engi.. ing are aware of the advantages .. gained by complete and continual .. mentation but even they are findi.. hard to cope with the flood of .. literature.

Smaller and medium-sized firms .. particular are badly in need of ass.. in order to avoid misguided inves.. and effectively improve their compe.. position.

(Handelsblatt, 3 January 19..)



THINGS SEEN

Heinz Mack's circus of light tours Europe

When awarding the Krefeld Art Prize in 1958, the jury was torn between two works – a Joseph Beuys object and a relief by Heinz Mack. Mack was eventually given the award. He was then only 27.

Today, fourteen years after this close contest, the whole affair seems almost symbolic. Beuys and Mack represent the two extreme poles of this country's art scene, the one standing for commitment in art and the other pursuing a *l'art pour l'art* system of aesthetics exploiting the opportunities offered by modern technology.

Until three months ago both Mack and Beuys were professors at the same Academy of Art, in Düsseldorf. When an exhibition of Mack's art was opened at the city art gallery, Willi Bongard, an observer of the art market, caused a stir of his own.

Bongard attacked the art gallery, and to a certain extent Mack as well, for opening the exhibition as if nothing at all had happened. But it had -- Professor Beuys had been dismissed from the Academy of Art.

This was an indirect attack on Mack and a reprisal for Mack's own attack on Bongard a couple of years previously when he had described the critic's method of evaluating art in the *Capital* economic journal as a "pseudo-system".

Whether art was conceived for society or as an attack on it, it still permitted rising prices and social prestige, as the valuations placed on Beuys' works on the international art market showed.

Mack no longer needs to bother about the "relevance" of art. "The term is gradually making me sick," he told critics at the opening of his exhibition in West Berlin's Academy of Arts. For Mack social relevance is the amount that he can deduct from his taxes for materials and



the like. That is one way of looking at the subject if you like.

Bouys wishes to see the world as an artistic process. Mack needs the nature of this world to breathe life into his artistic effects which are more than just technical arrangements. These two views will be diametrically opposed as long as there is art history. Indeed, it is these views that help form art history.

Homo faber and *homo ludens* merge in Mack. Mack's studio in an old, preserved farmhouse near Mönchengladbach looks like the finishing shop of a metal goods factory. The principle of production becomes plain when the artist takes the prefabricated industrial products – plain aluminium, aluminium reliefs, clouded glass, mirrors and other materials – and forms them into fantastic daydreams.

The old classical Dream of a unity of art and nature is re-examined and appears in new light, in the truest sense of the word. But when the works are completed, play begins – with light rotors, light stems, light reliefs, light pianos or light merry-go-rounds. Lamps, the sun and fire supply the natural or artificial sources of light in which the works are set free.

Mack's Sahara project from the beginning of the sixties, shown on television in 1968, is still seen as the climax of his experiments with fabricated light receivers. It took place in the deserts of Tunisia and gained him a medallion at the Venice Art Film Biennale in 1970. Mack and his earlier Zero friends were jointly responsible for this country's entries to the Biennale that year.

Today Mack's light art enjoys a reputation that goes beyond the frontiers of the Federal Republic. The Düsseldorf exhibition will also be on show in Paris, Eindhoven, Berne and Hanover.

His works are popular decorations and illuminations for reception centres of official buildings and are often used as part of the stage design of theatres. Mack has recently been commissioned to provide the set for a production of Wagner's *Tristan and Isolde* in an outdoor



arena at the French town of Orange. The glittering display of fireworks unleashed by Mack in Düsseldorf art gallery is often reminiscent of a gaily decorated room at Christmas and provides many visual surprises. Any observers who allow themselves to be captivated by this sort of aesthetic contemplation will realise how far these luxurious movements of light are removed from Beuy's ideas on art.

Wolfgang Stauch-von-Quitzow

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 7 January 1973)



Mack's *Sapienti sat* executed in 1967

(Photo: Katalog)

Richter to play at Ansbach Bach Week

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Sviatoslav Richter is to give two concerts of the second part of the Well-Tempered Clavier at this year's Bach Week in Ansbach – the twenty-fifth – between 27 July and 4 August.

Young instrumentalists will also appear at the Bach Week for the first time. Two church concerts with works for the organ, violin and cello are taking place under the motto "Young Artists Make Music".

The programme also contains a performance of Wolfgang Gräser's orchestral version of the *Art of the Fugue* by the Bamberg Symphonic under Fritz Rieger, three orchestral concerts under the direction of Hanns-Martin Schneidt and Neville Marriner and a motet concert with the Regensburg choir.

Diethard Hellmann will be conducting the Bach Choir of Mainz and the Bach Week Soloists Group in performances of secular cantatas and the Mass in B Minor. Other persons taking part in the soloists' concerts are Aurèle and Christiane Nicolet and Christiane Jacottet with works for one and two flutes, harpsichordist Zuzana Ruzickova with two and three-voice compositions, Daniel Chorzempa with organ works and Elisabeth Speiser, soprano.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 3 January 1973)

Campendonk colour compositions exhibited in Düsseldorf

Peace and a wealth of atmosphere are to be seen in the world he captures in his pictures, with their intrinsic feel for colour tones, for colours that can be understood from the space they occupy rather than from objects they fill out.

But the world of Expressionist Heinrich Campendonk (1889-1957), which immediately makes one think of Franz Marc, is not large. Thematically it is limited. Again and again we see the motifs of Man and the animal kingdom in a primaeval rural landscape.

Campendonk came from Krefeld in the Rhineland but emigrated to the Netherlands in 1933 where he taught in Amsterdam. Düsseldorf Kunsthalle is at present staging an exhibition in his honour covering a broad sweep of more than one hundred paintings, water-colours, drawings, stained glass, and practically all of his woodcuts.

He was neither a revolutionary iconoclast of style nor a self-willed creator of new styles. He was the youngest member of the Blauer Reiter school and a satellite in the Marc-Kandinsky constellation.

Campendonk's *Interieur* painted in 1921 (Photo: Katalog)

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Throughout his life Campendonk worked on Cubist-Expressionist colours and shapes, with variations, alienations, sometimes embarking on partly Impressionist, partly finely structured pen outlining and from this he found a remarkable combination of Realism and ornamental construction.

With fine insight the new curator of Düsseldorf's Kunsthalle Jürgen Harten (successor to Karl Ruhberg, now in Berlin) has divided Campendonk's work up into the "Bavarian", "Düsseldorf" and "Netherlands" phases – the religious pictures and crucifixion motifs, the sentimental pastoral landscapes and naive stable pictures, interiors of houses belonging to the poor and the loving couples with the typical colouring of the Blauer Reiter school, the typical red and heavenly blue, the rust-brown tones and the greens.

And again and again we see the motif of Harlequin or Pierrot, the face of the made-up homeless person, and can often recognise this as having a definite quality of self-portrait, though certainly not in the sense of photographic likeness of Campendonk.

The high spots in the creative work of Campendonk, the disciple of Dutch *Jugendstil* master Thorn Prikker and also Prikker's successor as teacher of Monumental Painting at Düsseldorf Kunstakademie from 1926 to 1933 come mainly in his younger years, about 1920 when he was more sparing with his use of colour.

His powerful colour compositions of later years tend to be too superficial and decorative. And without wishing to detract from the artist it must be said that he is among those painters whose works should not be piled one on top of each other at exhibitions – a carefully selected smaller show would put his work in a much better light. With fewer works the overall artistic impression would have been better.

Klaus Morgenstern

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 6 January 1973)

THE ARTS

Soviet ballet sweeps the country

We have been invaded by Soviet ballet. After the production of Prokofiev's *The Stone Flower* in Wuppertal we have seen the premieres of Aram Khatchachurian's *Gayaneh* in Wiesbaden and Boris Asafiev's *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai* in Kassel.

These productions are a sure sign that the public has become tired of seeing the same old classical ballets. And only the larger theatres can afford to commission ballets from new composers to fill a whole evening's programme. Furthermore with *Swan Lake* and the like smaller theatres are constantly open to comparison with the bigger ensembles. By producing these lesser known works they avoid this competition.

Theatres are keen to keep a full programme of ballet and the seemingly endless reservoir of Russian ballet fills the bill.

Soviet ballets are political art. They are the predecessors and origins of the Chinese polit-ballets, such as *The Red Women's Battalion*. But in these West German productions the political element has been eliminated. For instance *Gayaneh* takes place on a cotton kolkhoz in Armenia.

A scene from Imre Keres' production of *Gayaneh* in Wiesbaden

(Photo: Rolf Bertschinger)

Giko, Gayaneh's husband, is a saboteur. He sets fire to the silos and is arrested. Gayaneh follows the party line and turns to the head of the collective farm, Kasakov, who loves her.

The obligatory festival in the closing act, the excuse for the *divertissement*, is dedicated to the completion of the rebuilding of the silo, thanks to a spirited communal effort.

In the Wiesbaden production Imre Keres sets the ballet in the good old days. Gayaneh is engaged to the shepherd Armen. Giko is a typical nasty drunkard who is after Gayaneh. The fire breaks out when he throws a lamp at her while drunk. The happy ending is the wedding of Gayaneh and Armen.

The removal of the political aspects of these works is without doubt justified, since Soviet propaganda from past decades cannot really claim to have even historical value. But when the original political message is removed the works lose their motivation and dramatic intensity. What remains is the music and fragments of action as an excuse for dancing.

Kassel's production of Asafiev's *Fountain of Bakhchisarai* was a failure and the main value of the exercise was to acquaint us with the music of Boris Asafiev (1884-1949). With its exotic harmonies and refined instrumentation it is the very best of post-Rimsky-Korsakov writing. In its melodic inventiveness it is very much Russian national music.

Of course in the thirties Asafiev was unable to open up new territory musically, but for use in the theatre his music is absolutely ideal.

The same applies to Khatchachurian's *Gayaneh*. Why the only piece of this to have achieved popularity is the *Sabre Dance* is a mystery. It contains about a dozen numbers that are just as striking. In addition there are many attractive passages of deeply felt lyrical character.

Imre Keres endowed the production with stylised Armenian and Kurdestan folk dances, which made the whole production a sheer joy to behold. The choreographic ideas bubble over, set alight by the attack and choreographic élan. During the Gopak the audience clapped along with the rhythm, and the waltz that followed kept them moving.

One can scarcely imagine how much Keres could have achieved with a larger ensemble and with virtuoso soloists. But this is not intended to detract from the Wiesbaden company and its soloists, Teresa del Cerro, Rolf Bertschinger, Petra Westermann and Gabriel Sela. All were in top form.

Will this be the start of a flood of the long despised Soviet ballets on our stages – or was it a nine-day wonder?

Reinhard Beuth

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 January 1973)

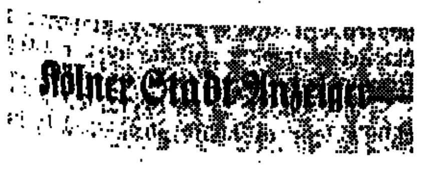
Academy magazine

The Federal Academy of Language and Literature in Darmstadt is planning to produce its own magazine. It will be designed to bring to a wider public the work of the Academy in the fields of literary and linguistic criticism and allied poetry and prose works, not all of which come from the pens of Academy members, and will appear alongside the year-book, which has been published regularly for the past twenty years.

The spring meeting of the Academy between 3 and 5 May in Cologne will deal with the theme "The Scope of Literature". During this meeting the Academy will award a translation prize and a prize for German Studies abroad. Each prize will be worth 6,000 Marks.

(Die Welt, 12 January 1973)

Boris Blacher celebrates seventieth birthday



"To me, music is comparable with a well-constructed bridge where a superfluous material is avoided," Boris Blacher once claimed. This off-the-cuff remark may be more of a casual jest than a description of his own work but, whatever the case, it says a lot about Blacher, who celebrated his seventieth birthday on 6 January.

Blacher grew up in China and Siberia and decided to study architecture and mathematics before music started to dominate his life. But, even as a composer, he retains his calculating skills, his pithiness, his ability to derive a maximum of effect from a minimum of effort and his love of the constructive and of juggling with numerical relations.

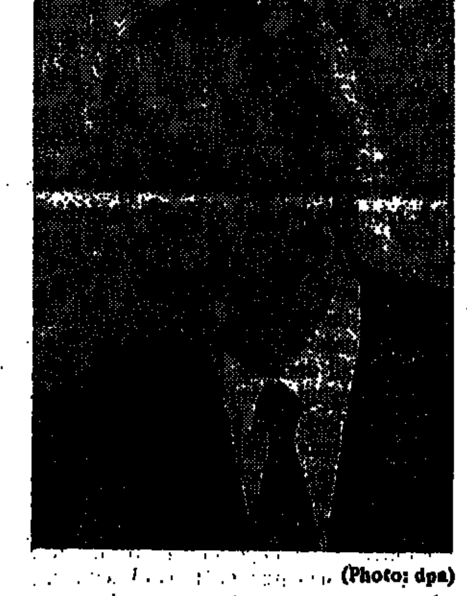
These features can be recognised in almost all his works.

Blacher's music is not governed by a wealth of imaginative ideas or the sensual powers of seduction, not even those compositions with masterly passages. Instead, it is often logic and a sense of the laconic that lend weight to the frequently brittle music which rejects all rich harmony.

The first fruit of such rational composition is the principle of variable rhythms with which Blacher caused such a stir in musical circles after the Second World War. At that time this country's musical life had become rather barren.

His productivity has not lessened since and he has employed this principle in all the types of music he has written, be it for opera, ballet, full orchestras or chamber ensembles.

The list of Blacher's works is impressive. He need never worry about where to turn for work. His style, hovering between traditional academic



(Photo: dpa)

writing and the adaptation of modern techniques, satisfies the demand for a contemporary form of music that is felt by the general public to be both modern and comprehensible.

Werner Bruck

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 January 1973)

Jazzmen get unionised

DIE WELT

A "Union of German jazz musicians" has been formed following a three-day congress in Marburg. The musicians have also set in motion a work-study group with Albert Mangelsdorff (Frankfurt) as spokesman and drawn up a catalogue of demands, theses and questions, all of which are to be cleared up before June, when the next general meeting is due to be held.

According to the business manager of the new "Union", Claus Schreiner (Marburg) the work-study group will concentrate on ascertaining how far jazz musicians can be represented by the Federal Trades Union Confederation (DGB).

Herr Schreiner said that the idea is to form a group of experts on jazz to come within the artists' union. Parallel to this the idea has been put forward that a "Deutsche Jazz Union" should be founded to encompass pro and amateur musicians.

Jazz musicians feel that their side of showbiz is inadequately represented and that they are at a disadvantage.

(Die Welt, 10 January 1973)

Mss auction in Marburg

Outstanding items at the largest European auction of manuscripts this year, to be held on 20 and 21 February at the J.A. Stargerdt auction-rooms in Marburg, include a first edition of *Siegfrieds Tod* by Richard Wagner, a letter of several pages by Ludwig van Beethoven to the Archduke Rudolf (previously unpublished), the previously unknown original version of the Chopin song *Far From My Eyes*, as well as the original copy of Mozart's Menuetto K168a and his cadenza to Beecke's Andante.

These manuscripts are estimated to be worth between 20,000 and 60,000 Marks. But one special item – the water-colour portrait of Goethe by Stiler for Ottilie von Goethe is expected to fetch 150,000 Marks.

An estimated value of between 12,000 and 15,000 Marks has been placed on an autographed album by Friedrich Hölderlin and the three-stanza poem fragment from *Die Gunst des Augenblicks* by Schiller.

(Die Welt, 10 January 1973)

Bayreuth Youth Festival

Bayreuth again plans to stage an international youth festival for young persons between 18 and 25 and older students. It will take place between 8 and 30 August 1973 – at the same time as the better-known Bayreuth Festival featuring works by Wagner.

The orchestral course under Wolfgang Gayler and Hans Zender will turn to works by Webern and Debussy (*La Mer*) amongst others. Wolfgang Schubert will stage Handel's oratorio *Israel in Egypt* and in his percussion course Robert Hinze will concentrate on works by Cohn, Kotonski, Ruzicka, Boulez and von Oertzen.

Ensembles ranging from a quartet to a nonet will be formed in the chamber music course and the theatrical course under George Froscher and Kurt Bildstein will rehearse scenes from Voltaire's *Candide*. A special seminar will also deal with Richard Wagner.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 9 January 1973)

■ EDUCATION

Affects of brother and sister relationship on marriage

Frankfurter Rundschau

A marriage has a greater chance of lasting the more similarity there is between it and the former family relations of the two partners. Take a family with two children by way of example. A boy with a younger sister will be more used to dealing with girls than boys and will tend to assume the role of protector with women.

A boy with an elder sister on the other hand will learned how to yield responsibility to a girl and a woman. A boy with a younger brother will have learned how to assume the role of leader and teacher towards his brother and all men.

A boy with an elder brother will be carefree as he has learned to rely on the protection of males. But both elder and younger brothers from a family where there are only boys have less experience with women than the other two types.

This at any rate is the "duplication theory" championed by Professor Walter Toman, head of Erlangen University department of psychology, and outlined by him in the periodical *Schule und Psychologie* published by Ernst Reinhardt of Munich.

He and his students have confirmed these results many times and they go even farther. A girl with a younger brother will tend to control and mother men in future whereas a girl with an elder brother will prefer to allow herself to be spoilt.

A girl with a younger sister will learn to lead girls and women while her younger sister will be used to being led and cared for by women. Both the elder and younger sister of a family with only girls will automatically have less experience with men than the other two types of sister.

All other brother-sister relations are built up around these elementary positions. According to Toman, a boy with an elder sister and a younger brother will assume both the role of a boy with an elder sister and a boy with a younger brother.

An only child has no brother-sister relations and its future role is determined by the brother-sister relations of the father, if a boy, or the mother, if a girl.

While children with one or more brothers and sisters tend to form friendships or partnerships according to their brother-sister relations, an only child will tend instead to find a partner who will assume the parental role.

A good partnership therefore would be one formed by a male with a younger sister and a female with an elder brother. Ralations between a male with an elder brother and a female with an elder sister would be less promising.

Partners form their relationship on the basis of former brother-sister relations. If they have not learned their role as a brother or sister they do not complement each other and there will be conflict.

Professor Toman and his students also investigated the question whether these brother-sister relations could influence performance, intelligence, success and failure.

Elder brothers and sisters and only children were found to place greater demands upon themselves than younger brothers and sisters are wont to do. They tend to be more elated by success and less depressed by failure than younger members of a family.

In other words, elder brothers and sisters and only children tend to have more motivation to display good performances. They also seem prepared to continue displaying good performances after a success. They are less discouraged by failure than younger brothers and sisters.

Professor Toman and his students also found that parents and their brother-sister relations also influence the children's wish to display good performances. Young people with parents who were of the same sex as the other siblings in their family — that is a father with one or more brothers or a mother with one or more sisters — are not so much inclined to work hard as young people with parents who did not come from a family where all siblings were of one sex.

It was also seen that children who have lost one of their parents were less likely to display good performances than children who still had both parents. But if one of the child's parents had lost a parent in childhood, the child proved to be a better scholar than those whose parents had not suffered such a loss. In other words, parents who lost their mother or father in childhood spur their children on to greater performances.

A study on the brother-sister relations of a number of modern-day celebrities may be mentioned in conclusion. So many of them proved to be elder brothers and sisters or only children that this could not be a coincidence. Few of them had both elder and younger brothers and sisters.

Most of the male celebrities had only or largely brothers. Elder sisters and only children were also predominant in the much lower number of famous women. Here too it seems as if elder brothers and sisters and only children are inclined to make a greater effort to distinguish themselves.

Where males are concerned, it is also true to say that having male brothers tends to spur them to greater performances. This was not noted among the women celebrities.

Gerhard Weise

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 January 1973)

Saarbrücken team plans to produce dictionary aided by a computer

Hannoversche Allgemeine

Not even science fiction novels describe computers which greedily devour texts in a language they do not understand but which nonetheless process them into up-to-date dictionaries.

Science fiction robots often have a mind of their own but real-life ones depend on instructions given to them by scientists. That is why a computer-produced dictionary is no longer a dream from the distant future.

Developments are currently under way at the University of the Saar. What is more, automated electronic research will enable linguists to keep pace with rapid linguistic developments.

Professor Hans Eggers, head of the university's German department, is in charge of the project and his team includes staff from the German, English and French departments of the university along with interpreters, translators and members of the department of applied mathematics.

They are pioneers in this field. Our language is extremely vital and linguists would never keep up with present trends by means of traditional methods alone. Their scientific construction would have to be altered as it was being built. But computers can now change all this.

What is true of the German language in general applies even more to dictionaries. Dictionaries can never be complete, archaic words are often included and new meanings are sometimes not recorded.

It is hard to find any consistent system. Technologists for instance are always borrowing new terms from foreign languages — words such as 'input' and 'output' for instance — but they also invent good new German words. Technologists therefore are well aware of the changes bugging a linguist's life.

Nobody knows the exact extent of the German vocabulary. Estimates range from four hundred thousand to eight hundred thousand words and are therefore no more than conjectures.

A computer intended to process these many thousand words, arranging them according to some classification, must be more than a mere sorting machine, arranging the words in alphabetical order.

The words *ass, ässen, esst, isst* and *gegessen*, all deriving from *essen*, to eat, show where this would lead. Many words also have more than one meaning and it is necessary to recognise this fact. The list of objections can be continued at length.

The Saarbrücken team have set themselves the task of programming a computer to arrange various forms of a word into one category. Exact knowledge of the structure of the German language is required and philological findings must be converted into systematic programmes to guarantee an automated process. Large numbers of random texts will be processed for this purpose in future.

This work is anything but routine. It requires the talents of fully-trained scientists. A computer will not understand anything it is fed. Subtle analyses of syntax must be given to it in a different form.

The problem can thus be seen as having to work out a set of instructions that will enable a machine to carry out the same functions as a person who not only understands German but is also aware of all its linguistic traps, complications and ambiguities.

This programme must also be divided into tiny units which the machine can cope with. It must be built up on the either-or alternative. Apparently simple chains of thought suddenly reveal themselves to be a series of several hundred individual steps.

The Saarbrücken team has been in existence for the past eight years. For the past two years its members have been dealing with this dictionary programme. The first computer experiments show that they are on the right road.

If their progress continues, a general information system that can be used by computers at any time will soon be developed. The computer-produced dictionary is no longer a dream from the distant future but an accomplishment that could be achieved tomorrow.

Rolf H. Simon

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 4 January 1973)

Parents unhappy with their children's performance at school survey reveals

More than eight million boys and girls go to school here. Many experience success. At any rate 42 per cent of parents are not happy about their children's performances at school even though their grades may be good, Professor Hubert Harbauer, the Frankfurt child psychiatrist, found in a survey covering the parents of 1,800 schoolchildren.

Writing in the medical periodical *Selecta*, he states: "Children who find learning hard and do not display the expected performance always have difficulties at school. The reasons for their not fulfilling expectations could be of a physiological or psychological character. But it would be wrong to look for the causes of these educational difficulties in the child alone."

Doctors and psychologists do not look upon inadequate school performance as proof of substandard intelligence. But on the other hand substandard intelligence is always linked with substandard performance.

An intelligence quotient of less than 80 or 85 (the average is 100) usually means that a child is transferred to a special school. An intelligence quotient of 115 or more usually leads to a recommendation that the child attends a more advanced school, if, that is, no serious mental symptoms are observed.

The selection of the appropriate type of school largely determines a child's mental development. Permanent failure at a school placing excessive demands on a child's intelligence could easily end in a mood of resignation or defiant aggression.

A child who has had enough experience of success at a special school for the backward will easily become isolated in a normally elementary school and this could seriously affect his self-confidence.

Previous investigations have shown that good grades in the first four classes of elementary school are an important status symbol and determine a child's position and popularity within a class.

But even intelligent children often run into difficulties at school. Deep-seated mental conflicts such as rivalry between brothers and sisters, inadequate indications of love on the part of the parents or an unnecessarily strict upbringing can be the cause. Some twenty per cent of schoolchildren display obvious behavioural disorders, the medical periodical reports.

Dislike of school will sometimes be compensated for through day-dreaming, experimenting with sex or frequent truancy. Professor Harbauer is quick to differentiate between the type of truancy which leads to children loitering around department stores, railways stations and cinema entrances and the type resulting from what he terms "school phobia".

School phobia is an expression of the child's fear of being abandoned by its mother. (Kieler Nachrichten, 4 January 1973)

Sex lessons

Sex education lessons can continue in Hamburg's schools "in view of their basic importance", the Hamburg Appeal Court decided recently, overruling an administrative court verdict of 25 April 1972.

The case was first brought to court by a Hamburg couple whose three children attend high schools in Hamburg. The parents objected to the guidelines for sex education issued by the education authority in 1970 and the administrative court upheld their complaint, ruling that the lessons were not permissable as they had no legal basis.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 5 January 1973)

■ MEDICINE

Munich scientists develop stop-smoking technique

The Max Planck Society, this country's best-known research association, has developed a scientific procedure designed to help people stop smoking by stages. The general public learned of it just in time to make their New Year's resolutions.

Dr Johannes Brengelmann, director of the Munich Psychiatric Institute and head of the psychological department there, and his assistant Elisabeth Sedlmayr conducted the largest experiment of its type ever to have been made and tested seven different ways to stop smoking. The best method turned out to be the simplest — the smoker controls himself.

By using this method, even chain-smokers can cut their consumption to less than ten cigarettes a day within eight weeks, it is then easy to stop completely. The method still has effect a year later — even without additional treatment.

"During the course of our analysis we found that most people dependent on nicotine chose unsuitable methods to stop smoking," Dr Brengelmann, who himself smokes an occasional cigarette, revealed.

"The effect of drugs or the decision simply to stop smoking does not usually last very long," he added. "That is why we divided our stop-smoking method into 37 easy stages."

Under Brengelmann's course of treatment people are allowed to smoke as much as they want. They only have to obey a list of 37 instructions which become stricter week by week. Each smoker controls himself.

Rule seven for instance obliges them to change their brand after finishing a packet, rule fifteen asks them to breathe deeply three times before lighting up and rule 34 demands that they never smoke when people around them are smoking.

Dr Sedlmayr, herself a smoker, reports: "Even the rule that smokers must record every cigarette they smoke helps to cut consumption. But the first temptations come after two weeks. Women worry about their figure as they tend to eat more and men are afraid of being ridiculed for keeping to these complicated instructions."

Drs Brengelmann and Sedlmayr spent a year studying smokers. Their work was commissioned by the Central Bureau for Health Education. A total of 355 men and women aged between seventeen and seventy smoked in the interests of science. Some of them smoked over one hundred a day, all of them exceeded twenty. Many of them have now given up the habit.

Dr Brengelmann claims to have made one important finding: "Under our method anyone can reduce his cigarette consumption, if not stop smoking altogether. It could be for health reasons, to save money, to test willpower or to save trouble with wives or non-smoker colleagues at work."

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 6 January 1973)

Aid to measuring shock

Hartmann & Braun of Frankfur have developed this measuring equipment to help doctors treat patients suffering from shock. The apparatus will determine the amount of oxygen consumed by the patient. A decrease in oxygen intake is one of the symptoms of shock though doctors were never able to measure it accurately in the past. The equipment has been tested under hospital conditions for a number of months and has already helped to save a number of lives. (Photo: WEDOpress)

Infant mortality rate increases

As a result of the rise in the Federal Republic's infant mortality rate the Federal states' Health Ministers met in Hamburg and decided to investigate the causes of mother and infant mortality by examining every single case of death.

The Federal Republic takes up twelfth place in the infant mortality figures for 23 European countries, according to Hans-Joachim Seeler, Hamburg's Senator of Health. It is in eighteenth place as far as the death rate for mothers in childbirth is concerned.

The mortality rate for mothers in childbirth has remained constant, one speaker stated. But 19,200 babies died in 1971. Statistics reveal that there are 23 cases of death for every thousand live births.

(Die Welt, 17 December 1972)

■ SPORT

Schmidtke – boxer from the world of fashion

WELT am SONNTAG

Who says only muscle-bound clods have the guts to go in for boxing? Who says male models are lily-livered weaklings? This country's latest boxing ace hails from the world of fashion.

Rüdiger Schmidtke has turned the hackneyed clichés of male models and prize fighters topsy-turvy, beating ex-Olympic gold medallist Chris Finnegan in London to win the European light-heavyweight crown.

Professional boxing, somewhat down on its uppers these days, may not have gained a new star of the calibre of Bubi Scholz or Karl Mildenberger but Schmidtke is unquestionably an out-of-the-ordinary character and both the general public and the media are starting to show interest in him.

Boxers do not always have to be brilliant technicians or punch-packing knockout specialists to hit the headlines – take, for instance, Rhenish jester Peter Müller or the arrogant show-off Wilhelm von Homburg, alias Norbert Grupe.

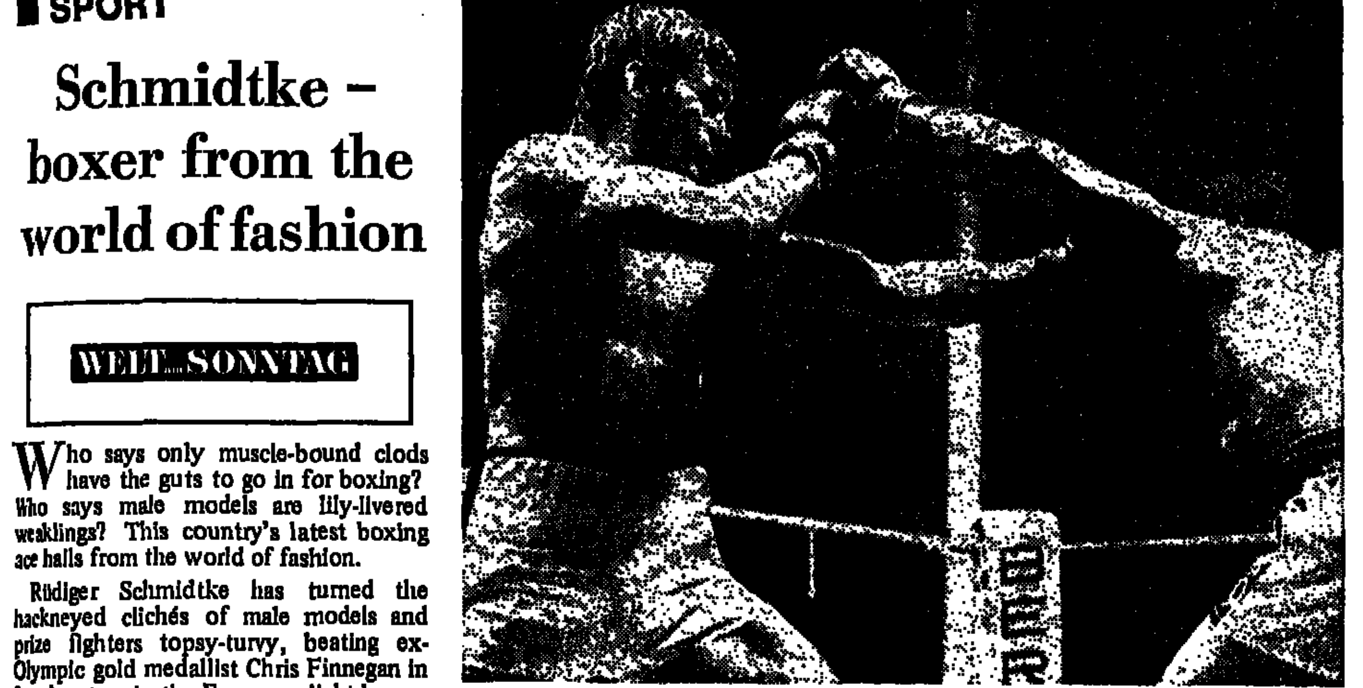
Rüdiger Schmidtke, a 29-year-old bachelor, is fair-haired, blue-eyed and something of a playboy. He boasts an athletic physique and good manners and is a latter-day adventurer on the lookout for monetary gain and nervous excitement in the ring.

"I fight merely for the financial reward. Fame and honour interest me not one little bit," the rankest outsider ever to win a European title explains.

He cultivates the image of being a coldly calculating professional whose every punch and move are determined by considerations of profit and his share of the purse.

Considerations of financial gain were not alone in deciding Schmidtke, a man with an aesthetic bent revealed by his work in fashion and furnishing, to aim at additional income from the noble art. Schmidtke admits that he was fascinated by the feeling of being a gladiator entering the arena.

Even after 32 professional bouts he still has to override his misgivings before every fight. "At every step I take on my way from the dressing-room to the ring I wonder whether I might not do better to hop it rather than clamber up there where I am left entirely to my own devices and the fists of my opponent."



Rüdiger Schmidtke in the ring (Photo: Werek)

The feeling of leaving the arena as the celebrated victor is all the more satisfying. "You feel yourself confirmed in your own manliness," he admits.

One cannot help feeling that Schmidtke goes into the ring to cope with complexes he has accumulated at fashion shows or in the chair of a fashionable Frankfurt hairdresser whose model he was for a whole year.

Rüdiger Schmidtke has never been an amateur. The same was true of Bubi Scholz. But Schmidtke was 23 before he even confronted a punchbag whereas Scholz at that age was already a champion and moneyspinner of long standing.

Schmidtke the model knew so little about the noble art that his efforts to find somewhere to keep fit took him to the Frankfurt Boxer Club, which turned out to breed the four-footed pugs rather than what he had in mind.

Schmidtke's career is masterminded by the owner of a Frankfurt gymnasium, a former boxing pro who has fashioned a professional boxer out of just about everyone with two hands capable of being inserted into gloves.

For the hell of it Rüdiger Schmidtke tried his hand at professional boxing too. Initially adventure and amusement motivated him, later to be joined by self-respect. "Boxing," Schmidtke readily admits, "has given me self-confidence."

In his first three years as a professional his earnings were nil. He went into the ring for fifty or a hundred Marks, which did not even cover his overheads. In those days he was more of an amateur than many amateurs.

Neither the enjoyment nor the sense of self-assertion he felt would, in the long run, have been sufficient to keep him in the ring.

Then, a good three years ago, he earned his first few thousand Marks from a single bout by thrashing Norbert Grupe in Frankfurt's Festhalle. Since then the prize money has interested him.

With the aid of his purses he has set up two fashion boutiques. Boxing has proved so profitable that he was able to give up his lucrative job as branch manager and buyer for a furniture firm.

On his retirement Schmidtke intends to set up on his own as an interior decor consultant.

Since his title bout in London Schmidtke has boxed once a month for a minimum purse of 15,000 Marks – in Mainz in December, in Frankfurt in January, to be followed by Berlin and Hamburg in March and April.

Schmidtke plans to earn his first really substantial purse from defending his title. In order to make sure that the bout is as lucrative as possible his manager has urged Finnegan's manager in London to put in the first claim for a return fight.

Providing the European Boxing Union agrees to a return bout in London Schmidtke hopes to clinch an 80,000-Mark purse, which would be twice the sum he earned as the challenger at Wembley.

He would run less of a risk of losing his European crown to the other potential challengers Conny Velensek of Berlin, Erich Nussbaum of Switzerland and Pasquale de Benedetto of France but the prize money at stake would be a mere fraction of what he would stand to earn from a return bout against Finnegan.

Schmidtke's financial plans for 1973 do not end with the defence of his title. Providing he wins he intends to take the Americans up on the offer made immediately after his sensational win against Chris Finnegan, that of a world championship fight against Bob Foster.

Not that Schmidtke has any visions of becoming the second German after Max Schmeling to win a world championship title. Foster is by the far better boxer of the two. But a world championship challenge bout would earn him good money even if he were thrashed by Foster.

Boxing, as far as Rüdiger Schmidtke is concerned, is business, and should his good looks take a battering "you can," he says, "have a nose straightened out by cosmetic surgery these days for 1,000 Marks or so."

Hartmut Scherzer

(Welt am Sonntag, 7 January 1973)

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Speed skating championships in Inzell

Olympic gold medallist Monika Pflug saw the old year out by winning the women's speed-skating championships in Inzell. She won the women's combination, Helmut Kraus of Inzell the men's combination, Horst Freese of Hamburg the sprint and Markus Eicher of Inzell the junior title.

To the applause of more than 2,000 spectators Monika Pflug summoned the strength to break her fifth and sixth national records within a mere three weeks.

Her time for the 3,000 metres was 5 min. 6.7 sec., an improvement of 2.2 seconds on the previous best. Her combination score of 187.221 points was also an improvement on the previous best of 188.545 points.

Her time for the 500 metres was 44.2 sec., for the 1,500 metres 2 min. 21.18 sec. and for the 1,000 metres 1 min. 29.69 sec. In all three instances she was but a hair's breadth away from setting up new records.

"All competitors are in extremely good form. The national team will come up trumps several more times before the season is over. We are doing better. I am particularly gratified by the times clocked by my three best long-distance sprinters," national coach Herbert Höfl notes.

In a run-off against Bavarian champion Anton Eicher over 10,000 metres twenty-year-old mechanic Helmut Kraus improved his personal previous best by 21 seconds to come home in a magnificent 16 min. 48.38 sec.

His other times were 41.46 sec. for the 500 metres, 7 min. 53.06 sec. for the 5,000 metres and 2 min. 8.67 sec. for the 1,500 metres – 182.078 points in all.

The 500 metres was the only event in which Helmut Kraus did not pass the post first. Anton Eicher won in a time of 41.44 seconds. Kraus can nonetheless be considered the successor to 12-time national champion Gerhard Zimmermann.

Frankfurter Rundschau

"I won," he said, "but form on the day is what clinches matters with us. Anton Eicher, Herbert Schwarz and I are pretty well equal."

Aged nineteen, this ambitious trio from Inzell represent the youngest national team in the world. "We have time to develop," coach Höfl says. "Really first-rate combination stars do not emerge until they are 25. And that is our target."

The Jonah of the championships was reigning sprint champion Hans Lichtenstern, who came a cropper in the second 500 metres heat and had to abandon his hopes of holding his own against Hamburg civil engineer Horst Freese, 29.

As it happened Freese, who last winter covered the 500 metres in 28.7 seconds to compete with the world's best, was not in particularly sparkling form but 163.71 points were sufficient to assure victory.

His times were 40.22 and 40.45 sec. for the 500 metres and 1 min. 22.5 sec. and min. 23.05 sec. for the 1,000 metres.

The unior champion was nineteen-year-old auto mechanic Markus Eicher who set up a number of personal best times: 42.53 sec. for the 500 metres, 4 min. 44.73 sec. for the 3,000 metres, 2 min. 11.51 sec. for the 1,500 metres and 8 min. 16.52 sec. for the 5,000 metres.

"Our youngsters are superb. They have never been this good," said Henk van Dijk of Holland, who will join Herbert Höfl as national coach in the New Year.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 1 January 1973)